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Japan

Government Recognizes Baltics' Independence

OW0609145891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1437 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 6 KYODO—Japan on Friday extended diplomatic recognition to the three Baltic states of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

The government decided in a cabinet meeting Friday night to extend the recognition to the Baltic states.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Misoji Sakamoto issued a statement shortly after the government received official confirmation from Moscow that the Kremlin has granted them formal independence.

Sakamoto noted that Japan last month expressed its support for the Baltic republics' "peaceful realization of independence reflecting the free will of the people."

"Based on this essential stance, the Government of Japan recognized these three countries," he said, adding Japan wishes the Baltics prosperity and hopes to establish friendly relations.

Sakamoto welcomed the recognition of the Baltics' independence Thursday by the State Council, a new transitional governing body set up by the Soviet parliament which includes Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and the leaders of the Soviet republics.

Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, meeting reporters, welcomed the Baltic states' achievement of independence and said Japan will begin talks with them as soon as possible on establishing diplomatic relations.

He said Japan's recognition of the Baltic states' independence will be formally conveyed to representatives of the three countries by Japanese diplomats in Moscow.

Asked if Japan would consider economic assistance to the three countries, Nakayama said that matter would be taken up when a special government mission sent last month soon returns to Tokyo with a detailed report.

Not To Recognize Other Republics

OW0609145491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1417 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 6 KYODO—Japan, having decided to recognize the Baltic republics, has no intention of extending diplomatic recognition any time soon to other Soviet republics that have declared independence, Foreign Ministry sources said Friday.

"I think it is most unlikely in the near future that Japan will recognize the independence of republics other than the Baltics," one source said.

Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania have declared their independence from the Soviet Union and the Kremlin has accepted their secession.

The sources said, however, that Japan does not exclude the possibility of extending recognition to some of the republics in the future, depending on how they will figure in the Soviet confederation now in the making.

One source said Japan will "not exclude any possibility for some new type of relationship between western states and constituent republics in the Soviet Union.

"Here, I think we need to be cautious," the source said. "Things will very much depend on what sort of republic each republic will emerge as from now on," he said.

Sources noted that while establishing diplomatic relations with some of the non-Baltic republics is a distinct possibility, another option would be to merely extend them diplomatic recognition.

They suggested that those republics falling into neither catagory could still be treated as sovereign entities, although it would not be possible for Japan to conclude bilateral agreements with them under international law.

One source noted that the Republic of Moldova is in a "grey zone" compared with the Baltics and other republics when it comes to whether Japan should extend diplomatic recognition.

Like the Baltic states, the territory which now makes up Moldova was seized by the Soviet Union in 1940 under a secret pact with Nazi Germany.

Japanese officials justify extending recognition to the Baltics ahead of Moldova by pointing out the three states were independent entities at the time of their seizure.

Moldova, however, was carved out of land belonging to Romania.

Bucharest has called on Japan and other countries to recognize Moldova to facilitate its eventual reunification with Romania.

Japan finds itself in an awkward position, unwilling to go forward with recognition, but having, like Romania, lost territory to the Soviet Union as a result of Stalinist expansionism.

Japan claims four islands off Hokkaido seized by the Red Army at the end of World War II.

Moscow partly based its claims to the contested islands on another secret agreement—the Yalta agreement concluded in 1945 among the Soviet Union, the United States, and Britain.

To Give Emergency Aid to Baltics

OW0609144691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1339 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 6 KYODO—Japan will join other industrial nations in giving emergency aid to the newly independent Baltic states in the same form as earlier western aid to East European countries, a Foreign Ministry source said Friday.

The source, commenting on the states' independence from the Soviet Union, said Japan will donate aid within the framework of the 24-nation conference aiding Eastern Europe and will help the Baltics—Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania—create market economies.

Japan also will favorably consider their applications to join the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, the source said.

An official of the Foreign Ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau said the Baltics' independence makes it easier for them to join the IMF.

A Finance Ministry official said, however, it is difficult to make a prediction on IMF membership until a decision is made on how to divide the Soviet Union's international debts among its republics.

The Baltics are likely to be treated the same as East Euroepan countries by the Paris-based Coordinating Committee for Export Control, which controls exports of strategic goods to the Communist bloc, Japanese officials said.

Russia's Acting Speaker Arrives in Tokyo

OW0909024491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0225 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 9 KYODO—Acting Russian parliament speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov arrived at Narita Airport on Monday morning for a five-day visit to Japan.

Khasbulatov, invited here by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), is the first key Soviet official to come to Japan after the failed coup by hard-liners in the Soviet Union last month.

On Monday, Khasbulatov will pay a courtesy call on Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and LDP Secretary General Keizo Obuchi.

He will return home Friday.

Russia Determined To Solve Island Dispute

OW0909121391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1138 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 9 KYODO—Russia is determined to end a four-decade old territorial dispute with Japan, acting Russian Parliament Speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov told Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Monday.

Khasbulatov, who said his mission was to explain the views of Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin, suggested that a resolution to the territorial dispute could be expedited by increasing exchanges, a Foreign Ministry official said.

Kaifu welcomed Khasbulatov at his official residence, and said he regards the visit as the symbolic "first step" in building a relationship between Japan and the new Russian Federation, the ministry official said.

Kaifu told Khasbulatov he hoped to see stable relations develop between the countries, and extended an invitation to Yeltsin to visit Japan, the official said.

Khasbulatov arrived earlier Monday for a five-day visit at the invitation of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, becoming the first senior Russian official to visit here following last month's failed coup against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Yeltsin's pivotal role in rallying public opposition to the coup enhanced the power of the Russian Federation, the largest entity in the Soviet Union.

Russia has jurisdiction over the four islands claimed by Japan—Etorofu, Kunashiri, Shikotan, and the Habomai islets, controlled by the Soviet Union since the close of World War II.

On Saturday Kaifu said Japan plans to take a two-pronged approach toward winning the islands' return by boosting ties with both the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation.

Khasbulatov told Kaifu that he respects Japan's views and motives for finding a solution to the territorial issue.

The dispute has prevented Japan and the Soviet Union from signing a peace treaty, and has also detracted from Japan's willingness to respond to the Soviet Union's pleas for financial assistance.

The Russian parliamentarian referred to Yeltsin's five-point plan for the return of the islands, first unveiled two years ago, and said he believes "many points" have been resolved.

Khasbulatov made no mention of Yeltsin's often-repeated view that the issue should be resolved by future generations, the official said.

"Under the new conditions, we think that an emphasis should be placed on fairness, and respect for the norms of international law," he said.

"We should not be restricted by which side won, and which lost in World War II," he said.

However, Khasbulatov added that Japan should take note of the greater weight wielded by public opinion as democratization takes root.

"Under the new conditions, a heavier emphasis should be put on public opinion. If bilateral exchanges and cooperation become more active, then domestic preparations to resolve the problem will become easier," he said.

The ministry official said the gist of Khasbulatov's presentation was contained in a letter from Yeltsin delivered to Kaifu during the 45-minute meeting.

Kaifu said Japan supports efforts being undertaken by the Group- of Seven industrialized nations to see that the Soviet Union obtains early assistance from the international community. Japan wants to offer "as much cooperation as possible," he said.

"We aim to build a new, stable relationship that will pave the way for the early conclusion of a peace treaty," Kaifu was quoted saying.

Kaifu said that Japan would continue its policy of a "balanced expansion" of relations, and noted plans to extend technical assistance, and to send a mission to Siberia to assess the food needs there.

Khasbulatov is also scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, International Trade and Industry Minister Eiichi Nakao, and business leaders during his stay.

Auto Trade To Open Talks in Washington

OW0909085791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0850 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 9 KYODO—Japan and the United States will begin talks in Washington Thursday on automobile and parts trade under the Market-Oriented Sector-Selective (MOSS) bilateral trade negotiations, Japanese government officials said Monday.

The two-day meeting will be the first among specialists following an agreement reached by the two countries in late July, when the Ministry of International Trade and Industry agreed to a bilateral study of Japan's auto market structure and business practices.

U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce Michael Farren has said that 75 percent of the 40 billion dollar trade deficit with Japan last year is automobile-related, with auto parts accounting for about 25 percent of the total.

The two nations will discuss ways of enhancing participation by parts manufacturers from the design stage through marketing negotiations and sharing of information by Japanese makers.

NATO Chief Woerner To Visit 15 Sep

OW0909084991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0834 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 9 KYODO—North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary General Manfred Woerner will pay an official visit to Japan on September 15-20, Foreign Ministry officials said Monday.

Woerner, who also serves as chairman of the North Atlantic Council, will be the first NATO chief to visit Japan, officials said.

He is scheduled to meet with Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada, and Defense Agency Director General Yukihiko Ikeda, officials said. A call on Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu is also likely to be arranged.

Nakayama invited Woerner to Japan when he visited NATO headquarters in Brussels in July 1990 and called for a closer dialogue between Japan and the Western military alliance.

Japan is the only nation among the so-called Group of Seven major industrialized nations which is neither a member of NATO nor the 35- nation Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Officials said the talks in Tokyo are expected to focus largely on the developments in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Woerner will be accompanied to Japan by Hans-Jochem Peters, head of NATO's Central and East European and Regional Affairs Section.

During last month's coup against Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, the 16-nation Western alliance suspended its program of official exchanges with Moscow, but full diplomatic liaison was restored after the reform forces prevailed.

Over the past year, NATO has established diplomatic liaisons with all members of the former Soviet-led Warsaw Pact.

Some of those former Cold War adversaries have expressed a hope to eventually join NATO.

But NATO has been cool to the idea of further extending its security umbrella, saying it could be unsettling for the Soviet Union.

NATO has instead agreed to cooperate with East European countries on security, scientific, and environmental issues, while promoting exchanges of legislators, journalists, and educators.

At a NATO summit meeting to be held in Rome in November, a blueprint for a new military and political posture after four decades of East-West rivalry is expected to be approved.

DPRK Wants Apology in Normalization Treaty

OW0709120691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1153 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 7 KYODO—North Korea has demanded that Japan apologize for its 1910-1945 colonial rule of the Korean peninsula in any treaty that establishes diplomatic relations between the two countries, Japanese sources said Saturday.

The sources said Japan declined the North Korean demand, saying it would be inappropriate for a treaty to lay down the legal framework for relations between the two countries.

Japan instead offered to apologize in a political declaration to be issued upon normalization of relations with North Korea.

The two countries differed over how Japan should apologize for its colonial rule of Korea during the fourth round of diplomatic normalization talks in Beijing August 30-September 2, the sources said.

During the first round of negotiations held last January, Pyongyang strongly demanded that Japan apologize in an official document restoring bilateral ties and setting compensation for its colonial rule of the peninsula.

Japan expressed repentance over its aggression against China when the two countries normalized relations in 1972.

The Japan-South Korea normalization treaty, signed in 1965, does not mention a Japanese apology for its colonial rule of Korea.

Former Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita expressed a Japanese apology to North Korea in March 1989. Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu also made similar comments in a letter to North Korean President Kim Il-song last September.

Hungarian Premier Seeks Increased Investment

OW0909103391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1002 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 9 KYODO—Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall urged the Japanese business community Monday to increase investment in his country.

Antall, on a four-day official visit to Japan, made the call at a luncheon hosted by the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

Antall, in a speech on the political and economic situations in Hungary, called on Japanese companies to import more from his country, which he said is moving toward a market economy through political liberalization, relaxation of regulations, and privatization of national industries.

He said his government plans to promote privatization of industries with foreign investment.

Antall asked that Japan reduce its large trade surplus with Hungary, noting that Hungary owes nearly 40 percent of its international debts to Japan.

Antall also called on Japan to buy Hungarian wheat and other farm produce for use in its aid to the Soviet Union, saying that would benefit both his country and the Soviets.

Turning to the political situation, he said Hungary is no longer dependent on the Soviet Union and is now the most stable country in East Europe.

Regarding Yugoslavia, Antall urged Japan to cooperate with other countries in settling the turmoil in the country, which he described as the last bastion of communist nationalism and militarism.

He said Japan cannot remain an economic superpower in the long run without playing a political role in the world.

Meets With Kaifu 8 Sep

OW0809122691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1159 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 8 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told Hungarian Prime Minister Jozsef Antall on Sunday that Japan is ready to provide economic assistance to Hungary beyond the 500 million dollar untied loan ceiling pledged last year.

Foreign Ministry officials said Kaifu made the remarks in an 80-minute meeting at Akasaka State Guesthouse with Antall, who arrived in Tokyo on Saturday for a four-day official visit.

Kaifu was quoted as saying that as Hungary has been on the cutting edge of the reform process sweeping Eastern Europe, Japan wants to extend it as much financial and technical assistance as possible in order to ensure its success.

Kaifu noted Hungary has been effectively absorbing the up to 500 million dollars in export-import Bank of Japan loans he committed during his January 1990 visit to Eastern Europe, which was to be extended over a three-year period beginning in 1990.

With that in mind, he said, Japan no longer considers there to be a time or money limit with respect to its aid over the mid- to long-term.

Officials said Kaifu was implying the original 500 million dollar figure ceiling and the stipulated disbursement period of three years are no longer of consequence.

Kaifu also told Antall that Japan would provide Hungary with a new two-year trade and investment insurance credit line of up to 400 million dollars for Japanese firms doing business with the country.

He pledged the same ceiling over the same period during his 1990 visit to Eastern Europe.

Officials said Kaifu also conveyed to the Hungarian Prime Minister Japan's intent to accept some 100 Hungarian trainees during the current fiscal year, which began in April.

He indicated Japan would positively consider Hungary's request for loan assistance for environmentally oriented projects.

Antall, meanwhile, called on Japan to procure Hungarian agricultural and other products as part of its upcoming program of assistance to the Soviet Union.

Officials quoted the Hungarian leader as explaining the economies of Hungary and other East European countries have been hard hit by a drastic drop in the volume of trade with the Soviet Union.

Kaifu promised to consider the possibility of procuring Hungarian wheat to send to the Soviet Union.

He also said it is under discussion among concerned countries as to whether it would be best that credits donated to procure items of assistance for the Soviet Union be done so on an untied basis.

Officials said Kaifu was indicating Japan has spoken in favor of the idea in such forums as the group of seven major industrialized nations and the group of 24 major donor countries vis-a-vis Eastern Europe.

Earlier in the day, Japan and Hungary concluded an agreement under which an unspecified number of Japanese overseas cooperation volunteers will be sent to the country.

Officials said the agreement was initialed by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama and Elemer Bifzterczky, Hungarian administrative state secretary for Education and Culture.

Emperor Receives Thatcher at Imperial Palace

OW0709065791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0639 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 7 KYODO—Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was received in audience by Emperor Akihito Saturday at the Imperial Palace, Imperial Household Agency officials said.

During a 45-minute meeting, Thatcher said she is honored by the planned visit to Britain by Crown Prince Naruhito to attend the opening ceremony of the Japan Festival in London, which is scheduled for September 16, the officials said.

Prince Naruhito, 31, will serve as the honorary chairman of the four-month event.

The emperor thanked Thatcher for Britain's assistance while the crown prince was studying at Oxford University's Merton College from 1983 to 1985, they said.

Thatcher arrived in Japan on September 1 for a 10-day visit.

Sihanouk 'Unlikely To Visit' Before Nov

OW0909104291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 9 KYODO—Cambodian Prince Norodom Sihanouk is unlikely to visit Japan before November, Foreign Ministry sources said Monday.

Sihanouk, who heads the Supreme National Council [SNC] representing the four Cambodian factions, was earlier reported to be coming to Japan in September on the way to attend the opening later this month of a new session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Sihanouk was to be invited as a guest of the Foreign Ministry as part of Japan's efforts to facilitate a Cambodian peace settlement.

The sources also indicated that Japan is considering extending further emergency relief assistance to Cambodia, where the flood situation around the capital of Phnom Penh is worsening.

The city of one million people is being inundated from waters of the rising Mekong River. It is already surrounded by flood waters and cut off by road.

Japan announced last month that it was giving 15.8 million yen in flood assistance to the SNC, a national reconcilation body formed last September effective until the holding of elections.

The Foreign Ministry sources also said Japan sent a technical survey team to Phnom Penh last month to prepare for the setting up of a Japanese diplomatic mission in the capital when the SNC establishes its headquarters there in November.

The source said Japan plans to dispatch another advance team to Phnom Penh soon to staff a liaison office prior to sending an ambassadorial-level representative there in November.

Ministry To Reopen Suspected Stock Probe

OW0709080191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0749 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 7 KYODO—A senior Finance Ministry official told the Diet Saturday the ministry will reinvestigate suspected stock price manipulation involving a major paper manufacturing company listed on the Tokyo Stock Exchange (TSE).

Nobuhiko Matsuno, director general of the ministry's securities bureau, told a House of Councillors investigative committee the investigation will be carried out with the cooperation of the TSE.

The stock price of Honshu Paper Co., Japan's fifth largest paper manufacturing firm, surged by 1,300 yen in only three days between October 3 and 5 last year, arousing suspicion of price manipulation.

Matsuno told the committee Friday a joint investigation by the Finance Ministry and TSE last year failed to produce evidence of manipulation.

Matsuno said Saturday the TSE has continued to monitor price movements of the Honshu Paper stock since September last year as part of its routine check on stock trading on the market.

Kazutomo Ijima, director general of the Justice Ministry's Criminal Affairs Bureau, told the committee that public prosecutors are "well aware" of suspected price manipulation by speculators in a move to preserve the value of Honshu shares held at financial institutions as collateral.

In response to questions about revision of the Securities and Exchange Law, Matsuno said it is important to impose penalties on customers aggressively seeking brokerage houses' compensation for their investment losses.

The Finance Ministry said it is working on a revised law to be submitted to the Diet for approval at its current session closing in early October.

Ministry officials said the new law will ban loss compensation and make violators, both brokerages and customers, liable to imprisonment or fines.

Projectile Explodes Near SDF Headquarters

OW0709015891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0108 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Yokosuka, Kanagawa Pref., Sept. 7 KYODO—A projectile exploded early Saturday morning near the district headquarters of the Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) here, about 50 kilometers southwest of Tokyo, police said.

The blast shattered most windows of a three-story welfare center at around 2 AM [061700 GMT] when the projectile exploded on a hill some 30 meters behind the center, police said. There were no injuries.

Defense officials later found a metallic object considered to be a fragment of the projectile in a tugboat at a nearby wharf, police said.

A policeman also discovered another firework-like projectile in the water off the headquarter's Yoshikura Pier, 400 meters northeast of the hill at 3:40 AM.

The second projectile caused no injury or damage, police said.

They suspect an extremist group fired the projectiles to protest the proposed role for the Self-Defense Forces in United Nations peacekeeping operations and deployment of U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Independence to Yokosuka.

Two Yokosuka-based minesweepers and one support ship are part of the MSDF minesweeper unit in the Persian Gulf.

North Korea

Government Recognizes Independent Baltic States

SK0709153491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1525 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 7 (KCNA)—The spokesman of the DPRK Foreign Ministry in a statement issued to the press Saturday made clear its stand of recognizing the independence of Baltic countries.

He said:

Three Baltic countries in the Soviet Union—Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia proclaimed their independence.

The DPRK officially recognizes the independence of these countries and manifests its readiness to develop the friendly and cooperative relations with these countries in the future in accordance with the idea of independence, peace and friendship.

Comments of U.S. Commander Criticized

SK0909095591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0847 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 9 (KCNA)—The commander of the U.S. Forces in South Korea in a recent interview with a newspaper prattled that as there was no change in the relations between the North and the South of Korea even under the "worldwide change" the United States has no alternative but to keep its troops in South Korea and that the U.S. troops will conduct a prompt operation if the "attempt to invade the South" is shown because the military forces of the North have been modernized and their threat increased in the past.

NODONG SINMUN today brands this as a shameless trick to legitimate the U.S. troops' occupation on South Korea and policy of war and an undisguised challenge to us.

Noting that the United States is to blame for "the absence of fundamental change" in the Korean situation, the news analyst says:

The United States is talking about "termination of confrontation", "detente" in other region, but acts on the contrary in the Korean peninsula.

Still worse, the United States openly proclaimed the Korean peninsula as a region of next war in accordance with "new military strategy" and the strategy of "regional disputes" and is pushing ahead with the plan for a war against our Republic and staging ceaseless nuclear attack exercises to carry it through.

The situation of the Korean peninsula has not changed for the better because of the U.S. acts.

Making much ado about our fictitious "arms buildup" and "military threat," the United States clamoured about U.S. "counter-attack", which betrays its ulterior intention.

The United States' claim for "counterattack" against us means to keep the U.S. troops' occupation of South Korea, steps up arms buildup and take the road of a war againt us.

The United States must stop its scheme to maintain its occupation of South Korea under an inconstant pretext and withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea without delay.

Daily Warns U.S. To Remove Nuclear Weapons

SK0709055791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0509 GMT 7 Sep 91

["Urgent Demand for Removal of Nuclear War Danger From Asia"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 7 (KCNA)—It is a fundamental way of removing the danger of nuclear war from Asia to get the U.S. nuclear weapons pulled out of South Korea and turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, says NODONG SINMUN in a by-lined article today.

Today the danger of nuclear war is increasing on the Korean peninsula with every passing day owing to the large-scale nuclear arms buildup by the United States in South Korea and its ceaseless nuclear war exercises, the article notes, and continues:

Claiming that "the 21st century is an era of the Pacific", the U.S. ruling quarters define the Asia-Pacific region which has abundant manpower and material resources and is situated in an important vantagepoint from the military strategic point of view as a "region vital" to the interests of the United States, a "region" of key importance for the security of the United States and are trying to establish monopolistic domination over the region.

Notably, the United States attaches particular importance to South Korea and is intending to realise its domination over the whole of Korea and Asia with South Korea as the springboard.

South Korea has turned further into a nuclear forward base, the biggest in the Far East, and a frontline attack base according to the nuclear war strategy of the U.S. imperialists.

Another war, a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula poses a real danger, not a mere possibility.

It is an urgent demand for peace in Asia and the rest of the world to ward off a nuclear war and guarantee durable peace on the Korean peninsula.

The danger of nuclear war in the Korean peninsula and Asia is attributable to the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

If the danger of nuclear war is to be removed from the Korean peninsula it is imperative to withdraw nuclear arms from South Korea before anything else.

The government of our Republic which is striving for durable peace in the Korean peninsula and Asia again put forward a realistic and just proposal for the denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula some time ago.

If the United States truly wants peace as the very one which has deployed nuclear weapons in South Korea, it should respond to the freshly-packaged overture of the DPRK.

If the U.S. talk about detente and peace is true, there can be no ground whatsoever for it to shun our proposal.

The United States should take a step to remove the nuclear threat and pull its nuclear weapons out of the Korean peninsula.

National Meeting Marks 43d Founding Anniversary

SK0809093191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0823 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 8 (KCNA)—A grand national meeting marking the 43rd anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was held at the February 8 House of Culture today.

Put up at the platform of the meeting hall was a portrait of the great leader President Kim Il-song, the founder and leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Present at the meeting were O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and minister of People's Armed Forces; Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, members of the Political Bureau of the C.C., WPK and vice-presidents; and other senior party and government officials; the congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan headed by Yi Mal-sang, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Commitee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon); Cho Il-min, chief of the mission of "Hanminjon" [South Korean National Democratic Front] in Pyongyang; members of delegations and home-visiting groups of Chongnyon and delegations and home-visiting groups of Koreans in China and the Soviet Union.

Foreign diplomatic envoys here were present on invitation.

Vice-President Pak Song-chol made a report.

Our party has solved the question of power in our country in accordance with the will of our people by the efforts of our people themselves and in our own way on the basis of the chuche idea and thus made the entire people true masters of state and society and has been able to victoriously push ahead with the cause of independence of the popular masses. The cause of socialism in reliance upon their independent and creative role, the reporter said, adding:

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song proclaimed to the world the founding of the DPRK on September 9, 1948 on the basis of the chuche-based line of building a power which he had advanced in the period of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle, and of the rich experience gained in the struggle to implement it.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught:

"The establishment of the Republic enabled our people to shape their destiny independently and creatively as genuine masters of an independent and sovereign state and provided them with a powerful weapon to build socialism and communism."

The reporter said:

Up to now since its founding the DPRK has traversed a proud course of struggle which is shining with victory and glory along the road of independence indicated by the chuche idea and successfully performed its role in accomplishing the sacred cause for the prosperity of the country and happiness of the people.

We could arm the entire people with the chuche idea and consolidate rockfirm the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks on the basis of the chuche idea by firmly adhering to the independent stand and thoroughly carrying out the chuche-oriented line of socialist construction in the revolution and construction under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea. And we have carried out the revolution and construction in conformity with the specific conditions of our country and the aspirations of our people by our own efforts under whatever difficult and complicated circumstances and thus turned our country into a powerful and dignified socialist country, independent in politics, self-sustaining in the economy and self-reliant in defence.

In our country today the tested Workers' Party of Korea stands firm in the centre of the revolutionary ranks, and the popular masses who have withstood all sorts of ordeals, casting in their lot with the party in the course of the long-drawn-out revolutionary struggle, are singleheartedly united around the party and are discharging their responsibility and role as the motive force of revolution. Hence, any slightest political instability or vacillation cannot be seen in our country even in the vortex of fast-changing flow of history and the invincible might of our own style socialism is being highly demonstraed.

Socialism built in our country today is the people-centred socialism of our own style which brilliantly applies the independent and popular character of the government of our Republic and its advantages are being brought into full play in the happy and worthwhile socialist life of our people. The people's support for and trust in our socialism now is immovable.

As our socialism is the most advantageous people-first socialism which embodies the chuche idea our people regard socialism as a cradle of their life and happiness, entrust all their destinies entirely to it and are devotedly working with high allegiance and patriotic zeal for the party and the leader, for the blessed people's government, which have established the best socialist system of chuche in the world, cherishing boundless national pride and confidence in living under the system.

As long as the immortal chuche idea indicates the road ahead of us, as long as there is the wise leadership of the party and the leader and there is the government of our Republic serving the people and there is the single-hearted unity of our revolutionary ranks in which the leader, the party and the masses are closely rallied as one socio-political organism, the future of our Republic's socialism is endlessly bright and the socialist life of our people will further flourish with every passing day.

Saying that to realize the independent and peaceful reunification of the country is the most urgent national task facing the government of our Republic and our people at present, Pak Song-chol stressed that what is most important in solving the reunification question of the country independently and peacefully in the present period is to achieve the great unity of the whole nation.

He went on to say:

To achieve the great unity of the nation, contacts and travels should be made frequently and dialogue developed actively among Koreans in the North, the South and overseas.

If the South Korean authorities are truly interested in realizing contacts and travels and promoting dialogue between the North and the South, they must pull down the wall of national division, scrap at an early date the "National Security Law," an anti-reunification evil law blocking free travel, contact and dialogue between Koreans in the North, the South and abroad, and release the Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and student Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North and many pro-reunification activists. And they must accept our just proposal and come out to the negotiating table for a nationwide political consultative conference, thus proving that their talk is not a lie.

Noting that in view of the process of change in the general situation today it is high time that the United States re-examined its Korea policy, he said that if the United States really support the reunification of our country and want to ensure peace on the Korean peninsula, there will be no reason why it should not accept our demand for replacing the Armistice Agreement by a peace agreement and withdrawing its troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, nor will there be any insoluble problem in the improvement of relations between the DPRK and the United States.

Referring to the U.S. claim for a nuclear inspection of somebody, he contended that if a nuclear inspection is to be made, it must be made simultaneously of South Korea where nuclear weapons exist, instead of trying to force it on us alone who have no nuclear arms.

The South Korean authorities must discard their scheme to keep the U.S. troops stationed in South Korea and unleash a nuclear war, no longer avoid adopting a North-South nonaggression declaration and take steps to realize disarmament and discontinue the aggressive "Team Spirit" joint military exercises that aggravate military confrontation, he said.

Touching upon the international situation, the reporter said the obtaining situation requires that the world's progressive people and all the peaceloving forces firmly unite and oppose all manner of dominationism including imperialism and colonialism and staunchly defend independence and thoroughly exercise their sovereign rights in internatitnal relations.

The DPRK Government will as ever develop the friendly and cooperative relations with the peoples of many countries including socialist and non-aligned countries and make an active contribution to the common struggle to build a free and peaceful new world, an independent and prosperous new Asia, he stressed.

Yi Mal-sang, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, who is heading the congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan for celebrating the 43rd founding anniversary of the DPRK delivered a congratulatory speech at the meeting.

List of Leaders Present

SK0909060691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Excerpts] A grand central report meeting took place today at the 8 February House of Culture to mark the 43d anniversary of the founding of the honorable DPRK. [passage omitted]

Present at the rostrum were Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrades Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice presidents; Comrade Choe Kwang, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and chief of General Staff of the Korean People's Army [KPA]; Comrades Kye Ung-tae, Chon Pyong-ho, and Han Song-yong, members the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretaries of the party Central Committee; Comrade Hyon Mu-kwang, candidate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Inspection Committee of the party Central Committee; Comrade Choe Tae-pok, candidate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; Comrades Choe Yong-nim and Hong Si-hak, candidate members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice premiers of the Administration Council; Comrade Kim Chol-man, candidate member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau; Comrades Kim Pok-sin and Kang Hui-won, candidate members of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice premiers of the Administration Council; Comrades Kim Chung-nin, Pak Nam-ki, So Kwan-hui, Yun Ki-pok, Kim Yong-sun, and Hwang Chang-yop, secretaries of the party Central Committee; Comrades Kim Yun-hyok, Kim Chang-chu, and Chang Chol, vice premiers of the Administration Council; Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly; Yi Kye-paek, chairman of the Korean Social Democratic Party Central Committee; Chong Sin-hyok, chairman of the Chondoist Chongu Party Central Committee; and other responsible officials of party and administrative institutions, public organizations, and central institutions; anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters; heroes; scientists; and people of merit. Also present at the rostrum were Yi Mal-sang, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and head of the congratulatory group of Korean residents in Japan, and Cho Il-min, chief of the South Korean National Democratic Front.

The meeting started with the playing of the national anthem. [passage omitted]

Pak Song-chol Gives Report

SK0909061791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0100 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Report by Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and vice president, at Pyongyang meeting on the 43d anniversary of the DPRK's founding—live]

[Text] Comrades: Today, by highly upholding the revolutionary banner of the great chuche idea, all the people in the entire nation are significantly commemorating the 43d anniversary of the founding of the glorious fatherland, the DPRK, by embracing the great national pride and dignity of vigorously moving forward to complete the socialist cause.

On the occasion of this happy national holiday, upon the authorization of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK], I, on behalf of the WPK Central Committee and the government of the Republic, enthusiastically congratulate all the people, including the workers, peasants, soldiers, and working intellectuals who have devotedly struggled to found the Republic and to strengthen and develop it. [applause]

In addition I send compatriot greetings to the South Korean patriots and people from all walks of life who are indomitably carrying out the anti-U.S. struggle for independence, the antifascist struggle for democracy, and are working for the reunification of the fatherland by considering the Republic as the beacon of hope. [applause]

I also send warm greetings to all overseas compatriots, including Korean residents in Japan, who feel patriotic enthusiasm for the socialist fatherland's prosperity and the nation's independent and peaceful reunification. [applause]

On behalf of the WPK, the government of the Republic, and our people, I enthusiastically welcome many comrades and friends who are participating here to congratulate our national holiday. [applause]

Comrades. What is important in the working class party leading the popular masses' independent cause is to correctly resolve the issue of sovereignty, and, based on this, to push ahead with the full-scale struggle and construction work.

Revolution is a struggle for the independence of the popular masses, and independence is guaranteed by the state ruling power. The overall course from the time of the working class' appearance and the communist movement's beginning to this day in the arena of history shows how the people's fate and the revolution's future are influenced, which is in accordance with the issue of sovereignty being resolved by the working class party that is leading the revolution.

Based on the chuche idea, our party resolved the issue of sovereignty in our country according to the people's intention. Our party did it through the might of our own people and in our own style. By doing so, all the people became true masters of the nation and society, and, based on their independent and creative role, the popular masses' independent cause and the socialist cause were pioneered victoriously. [applause]

Our country's claim of carrying out the people's sovereign politics begins as early as the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle period. During the arduous anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle period, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song firmly established the revolutionary chuche of our course, thus victoriously leading to the fatherland liberation cause and providing a deep and resolute historic root in the construction of the people's regime.

Basing himself on the rich experience acquired in the course of advancing the chuche-oriented line of building power during the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and in the struggle to implement it, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song established people's power in the northern half of our country following national liberation in a timely manner. He successfully proceeded with all manner of democratic reforms, and, based on this, he finally declared to the world the founding of the DPRK on 9 September 1948. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The Republic's founding has made it possible for our people to shape their own fate independently and creatively as the true masters of an independent and sovereign state and to have at their disposal a powerful weapon for building socialism and communism.

The Republic's founding was a great event of historic significance in the development of the revolution and in the life of our people. [applause]

The Republic's founding made our people proud masters of an independent and sovereign state with sovereignty firmly placed in their hands. It also made them successfully accelerate their march toward socialism, while highly demonstrating the dignity of the chuche Korea.

From the day it was founded until now, our Republic has traversed a proud course of struggle, shining with victory and glory along the road of independence indicated by the chuche idea, satisfactorily playing its role in implementing the sacred cause of achieving national prosperity and the people's happiness. [applause]

The approximately 40-year history that our Republic has created is a history of heroic struggle in which our Republic has honorably defended national dignity and the people's independence in a showdown with the filthiest and craftiest enemies at home and abroad. It is a history of great creation and innovation in which our Republic, under the most difficult and complicated circumstances, has made uninterrupted strides of transforming a backward, semi-feudal agricultural colony to a new, wealthy, and prosperous society where the popular masses have become its masters, an ideal society in which the popular masses' independence is fully realized under the revolutionary and socialist banners. This is because our Republic has always assumed the chuche idea as the guiding principle in the state activities, fully embodied the revolutionary principles of the working class and the entire people's desires and demands, and strengthened its role as the people's faithful servant without interruption.

The chuche idea is the starting point of our state building and activities. To struggle for the embodiment of the chuche idea is the basic mission of the Republic's government.

Our Republic's government, which after being brought into being has been strengthened and developed as a socialist power as the people's democratic power according to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's original lines for building of the people's power, is an independent government chosen, founded, and run by our own people themselves, without copying other countries' models or (?advice) from outside, proceeding from the demand of the Korean revolution and our people's desire, in a way that corresponds to our country's reality.

Assuming socialist construction as a firm, unwavering principle by endlessly embodying the chuche idea in its activity, our Republic's government has deepened the struggle to endlessly strengthen the driving force behind the revolution under the banner of continued revolution and to remold all domains of society according to chuche's demand.

Assuming the strengthening of the driving force behind the revolution as an essential issue in the struggle for socialism, the Republic's government has always solved all the problems arising in the revolution and construction on the basis of enhancing its creative role. It has maintained, from start to finish, the lines of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense in the whole course of socialist construction, and has vigorously accelerated the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural.

We could arm the entire people with the chuche idea and consolidate firmly the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks on the basis of the chuche idea by firmly adhering to the independent stand and thoroughly carrying out the chuche-oriented line of socialist construction in the revolution and construction under the WPK's leadership. We have carried out the revolution and construction in conformity with our country's specific conditions and our people's aspirations by our own efforts under whatever difficult and complicated circumstances. Thus, we have turned our country into a powerful and dignified socialist country, independent in politics, self-sustaining in the economy, and self-reliant in defense. [applause]

As the tested WPK now stands firm in the center of the revolutionary ranks, and the popular masses who have withstood all sorts of ordeals, casting in their lot with the party in the course of the long-drawn-out revolutionary struggle, are single-heartedly united around the party and are discharging their responsibility and role as the masters of the revolution in our country, any slightest political instability or vacillation cannot be seen in our country, even in the vortex of fast-changing history, and the invincible might of socialism of our own style is being highly demonstrated. [applause]

In essence, a people's power is the revolutionary power of the working class; to thoroughly embody the revolutionary principle of the working class is a basic principle that must be adhered to in a socialist state's activities.

The struggle to build socialism is to be accompanied by a fierce class struggle. Only when the leading role of the working class in the state's activities is endlessly enhanced and the principle of the working class is defended can the nature of the socialist power worthy of the working class be safeguarded and can the honorable mission of the socialist power as the revolutionary power of the working class be discharged satisfactorily.

Socialism, which embodies the working class' desires and demands, is a cause for the people. The demands of the working class are identical to the demands of the classes and sectors that are concerned about social progress.

Only when the class interests of the working class are actively defended, along with the interests of the masses from all walks of life, including peasants and intellectuals, and only when their creative role is organized and mobilized to the full extent can the socialist power strike its roots deep in the broad masses, establish blood ties with them, and successfully realize the socialist cause on the strength of the masses.

The Republic's government, which relies on the lofty traditions of building a people's power established in the grave flames of the anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle and on the worker-peasant union led by the working class, as well as on the united front of the broad popular masses, has consistently embodied the revolutionary principles of the working class in all realms of the state and social life since it was founded, under the leadership of our party. At the same time, it has always placed the people's interests above everything in its activity and has made it a rule to do everything in conformity with them.

It is because our party firmly rallied the broad masses from all walks of life, including the working class, peasants, and working intellectuals, around the party and government by thoroughly embodying the class line and mass lines and has put our socialism on the most solid and broadest socialist and class foundation that our Republic's government is advancing the socialist cause on a road leading to victory amid the absolute trust and love of the popular masses, without the slightest deviation. [applause]

Unlike the governments that seek to achieve political domination over the people through power abuse, our Republic's government has been founded as the representative of the working masses' independent rights. It is the organizer of the creative ability and activity, the master of the house responsible for the people's livelihood, and the defender of the people's interests, serving only the people and nothing else, and is endlessly strengthening its role as the people's faithful servant.

The essential characteristics and the incomparable superiority of our Republic as the chuche-oriented revolutionary power, along with the firm guarantee that has become a powerful weapon of our people's power and socialism of our style, lie in the fact that it was built by our people in conformity with the demand of our revolution and the our country's reality. It was built through the embodiment of the great chuche idea, and it has embodied the desire and demand of the working class and the will and aspirations of the entire popular masses. It discharges its mission and role as the public servant. [applause]

Experiences attained in our revolution and construction show that the party of the working class can defend the revolutionary gains attained with blood. It can successfully carry out the socialist cause without the slightest deviation by endlessly enhancing the function and role of the people's power only when it consistently maintains an independent and creative stand, not only in the struggle to win power, but also in the whole course of consolidating and developing the power that has already been founded and thoroughly embodies the revolutionary principles and the popular masses' desires.

The socialism which has been constructed in our country is the socialism of our own style centering on the popular masses, because it brilliantly embodies the independence and people-minded regime of our Republic. And the superiority of the socialism is in full bloom in the happy and worthwhile socialist life that our people enjoy. [applause]

Our country's socialism is the superior chuche-oriented socialism which provides independence and creative life for the popular masses. Under this system, all the people, as genuine masters of the state and society, enjoy to their heart's content political, economic, ideological, and cultural lives which conform to the intrinsic demand for social beings and to socialist theory.

Today, imperialists and reactionaries, blustering as if they were the protectors of democracy and human rights, viciously undermine socialism. However, this is a brazen-faced and ridiculous act like a thief crying stop thief.

The independence and dignity of the people are trampled underfoot and social inequality is extreme in imperialist countries. Various corrupt phenomena in the imperialist countries well show the antipeople and antidemocratic nature of the capitalist system.

In capitalist society, the value of the people is judged by money and material things, and the popular working masses are deprived of their dignity, political rights, and right to existence. Thus, it is very clear that there can be no democracy and human rights.

As for so-called democracy and human rights, about which the imperialists clamor, the democracy is only for a small number of exploiters, not for the people, and human rights are for the enemy of the people, not for the people.

Our people enjoy their life under our Republic's social system, with conviction and pride as the people carrying out the revolution. The popular working masses are masters of society, are free from all kinds of social evils, and enjoy to their heart's content an independent and creative life. Thus, we can proudly say that their life is the happy and worthwhile life of independent people, which is inconceivable in capitalist society. [applause]

The people's support and trust in our country's socialism are firm. Because our socialism is a superior socialism centered on the popular masses, to which the chuche idea is applied, our people think of socialism as their life and the cradle of their happiness and feel that their destinies depend entirely on it. Our people take endless national pride and conviction in living in chuche- oriented socialism, and devote their high loyalty and patriotic enthusiasm to the party, the leader, and the people-minded regime establishing this system.

The party and the state always firmly believe in the popular working masses and lead them to struggle. The people regard the party and the Republic as a motherly bosom and as the banner of reunification and unity and share the life and death of the party. This is the precious wellspiring of our socialism's invincible might. [applause]

Because of feudalistic oppression and imperialist aggression, our country was backward. Everything was destroyed in our country by the three-year war kicked off by the U.S. imperialists after liberation.

The people, however, have constructed the firm self-reliant national economy and have created a new happy and worthwhile life with their own strength within the shortest period after the war. This is the great historical leap which can be effected only in a socialist system. [applause]

In our socialist society, the popular working masses become the genuine masters of society, and everything serves the popular working masses. Our people, who enjoy the loftiest life as independent people and effect endless prosperity and growth of the country and the nation, take high pride and conviction in smashing the moves of enemy under the banner of the chuche idea. In addition, they are boldly proud of the fact that they have victoriously exploited the road of socialism and effected great achievements through their practical and worthwhile struggle. [applause]

The immortal chuche idea elucidates our future. As long as there are the wise leadership of the party and the leader, the Republic's regime serving the people, and the single-hearted unity of our revolutionary ranks—the leader, the party, and the masses being firmly rallied as a social and political organism—the socialism of our Republic is endlessly bright and the life of our people will be strengthened and developed as the days pass. [applause]

Comrades, the Republic's regime and our people are assigned the important task of more vigorously accelerating socialist construction on the basis of success already effected in the revolution and construction.

Under circumstances where imperialists and reactionaries of all types more viciously carry out anti-Republic and antisocialist moves than ever before, we carry out the revolution and construction.

Brilliantly carrying out socialist construction is an honorable duty assigned to the times and history, in order to achieve the prosperous development of our country and the happy life of our people, to defeat the challenge of the imperialists, to strengthen solidarity with the world revolutionary people, and to win a victory in the socialist joint cause.

When the cries of victory are continuously ringing out at socialist construction sites, the antirevolutionary offensives of imperialists and reactionaries objecting to socialism will be feeble.

The power of socialism of our own style centering on the popular masses, to which the chuche idea has been applied, will be epoch-makingly strengthened. A new turn will be effected in our people's struggle to win a complete socialist victory.

We should firmly adhere to the general line of our party's socialist construction, whose validity is clearly demonstrated through practicality; vigorously carry out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—and continue to effect a revolutionary upsurge on all fronts of socialist construction. By so doing, we should more highly demonstrate the superiority of our country's socialism. [applause]

We should further uphold the banner of the chuche idea and socialism. In keeping with the specific situation of the country and with the desire and demand of our people, we should settle, in our own style, all questions arising in the revolution and construction. We should indefatigably advance toward the policy of independence, self-reliance, and national self-defense put forward by the party.

The basic way to successfully carry out the enormous task of socialist construction which is assigned to us is to firmly realize the party's leadership toward the revolution and construction and to continue to consolidate and develop the single-hearted unity of the ranks of our people, who rally themselves around the party and the leader.

The party's leadership is the lifeline of the socialist cause. The key to our victory lies in thoroughly realizing the party's leadership. [applause]

We should uphold the party's leadership any time and any place, should act according to the party's line and policy, and should thoroughly defend and consolidate the party-people unity and solidarity centering on the leader as firmly as rock. By so doing, we should fill the entire society with the comradely ethos of struggling together, helping, and leading each other on the principle of one for all and all for one.

All party members and the working people, bearing in mind the firm conviction, "What the party decides, we will do," should display high revolutionary spirit and militant spirit. By so doing, they should bravely find their way out of difficulties and hardships, and more unyieldingly struggle in order to expedite the Third Seven-Year Plan which is a magnificent program for socialist construction.

Our people are not only the heroic people who smashed two imperialisms within one generation, but the revolutionary people who have brilliantly constructed socialism according to the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude.

Only when all the people, with firm faith in socialism and revolutionary optimism, live heroically and struggle according to the militant call put forward by the party, can the invincible might of the superior socialism of our own style centering on the popular masses be fully demonstrated. The honor and dignity of chuche- oriented Korea will be more brilliant. [applause]

Achieving the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland is an urgent national task assigned to the regime of the Republic and our people.

Our people, who have brought into full bloom the brilliant national culture on one land with one blood vein and with one language from time immemorial, have suffered from the pain of division for half a century owing to intervention and obstructive maneuvers of foreign forces. Considering the independence of the nation and the independence of the world, this is a historical tragedy which is cannot be tolerated at all.

The most important issue in independently and peacefully resolving our country's reunification in accordance with our nation's intention and demand is for all of the nation, which loves the country and wants reunification, to achieve great national unity. In essence, the issue concerning the reunification of our country is the issue of rejoining the severed blood vein of the nation, the issue of realizing national reconciliation, and the issue of achieving independence on a national scale.

This is a matter of great national unity and the fatherland's reunification. This also means that great national unity must be achieved in order to realize reunification of the fatherland. Great national unity is a basic precondition for and major component of the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland.

Our party and the government of the republic have consistently adhered to a fundamental stand on achieving the reunification of the country under a confederal system based upon the one-nation, one-state, two-system, and two-government concept. This is designed to achieve genuine national harmony and reunification. No other formula but the confederal system will help achieve national harmony and unity, under circumstances in which two different ideas and systems exist in the North and South of our country. All Korean people, whether they live in the North or South or overseas, must have an independent national view and be united into one under the banner of great national unity.

The fundamental principle in achieving great national unity is that compatriots from all walks of life in the North, South, and overseas must overcome differences in ideology, systems, and religion; they must emphasize the nation's common interests; and they must subordinate everything to the fatherland reunification cause. National homogeneity, which has been formed and has become common throughout our 5,000-year history, is more powerful than differences in systems, ideas, and religion that came about temporarily because of the national division. The fellow countrymen's common demand that they, as those of a single nation, achieve reunification is more important than the interests of each class or strata.

Today when our nation's independence is being violated by outside forces, no class or strata of the Korean nation must be a slave to its own selfish interests or prejudices, give priority to its class-based interests over national interests, or replace the struggle to reunify the fatherland with its struggle to fulfill its own class-based demands. Also, it must not reject or suppress [words indistinct] anyone simply because his or her political views and principles are different from its own. Also, it must not consider anyone to be hostile simply because he or she has different ideas and systems.

Contacts and travel must be expanded and dialogue must be positively developed among the compatriots in the North and South and overseas to achieve great national unity. [applause]

The barrier of division must first be torn down, and political and legal obstacles of various sorts must be removed to realize free travels and contacts and broad-based dialogue. We have advanced the proposal for the North and South to tear down the barrier of division and realize free travel and total opening up; the proposal to convene a political consultative conference for national reunification in which the representatives of the authorities, political parties, and public organizations of the North and South will get together and make a final decision on a formula for the fatherland's reunification; and other proposals for broad-based contacts and negotiations. We have made every sincere effort to realize these proposals.

The problem lies in the South Korean authorities' attitude. Even though they are babbling about reunification and reconciliation, the South Korean authorities, running counter to the people's strong trend toward achieving reunification in the nineties, are using the National Security Law to viciously punish those who visited the North or met with people from the northern half and discussed reunification with them. If they are truly interested in realizing contacts and travel between the North and South and making progress in dialogue, the South Korean authorities must tear down the barrier of national division; at the earliest possible date abolish the National Security Law, a vicious antireunification law that blocks free travel, contacts, and dialogue among the compatriots in the North and South and overseas; and release Rev. Mun Ik-hwan, the student Yim Su-kyong, and other visitors to the North, as well as numerous reunification movement activists whom they have unjustly arrested and detained on unfounded criminal charges. Also, they must prove the validity of their words by accepting our just proposals and coming to a table for pan-national political consultations, instead of resolutely trying to block people from discussing reunification, monopolize dialogue, and block multifaceted, broad-based contacts and dialogue between the North and South under the unchanging pretext of a single channel of dialogue.

For all the political parties and public organizations and people from all walks of life in the North and South and overseas—who are struggling to reunify the fatherland—to support and encourage each other and strengthen pan-national solidarity is today's urgent demand for hastening the cause of reunifying the fatherland by achieving great national unity. A prerequisite in this is to check and frustrate the maneuvers by those antireunification forces—who block the reunification of the fatherland—to perpetuate the national division and provoke a new war.

Inspired by the United States, the South Korean authorities who have been frightened at the fact that a pan-national trend toward reunification has been growing daily are more brutally suppressing patriotic forces for reunification and democracy. They, turning a blind eye to our reasonable reunification proposal based upon a confederal system, are stubbornly kicking up maneuvers to fabricate two Koreas, building grave obstacles to reunification, and aggravating tension between the North and South and strengthening military confrontation between them. Dazzled by the merger reunification of another country, the South Korean authorities have advocated the northern policy with an ambition to achieve reunification after prevailing over communism, carried out entreaty diplomacy, and dreamed a foolish dream of experimenting with such a reunification formula in our country with external assistance.

In our country, theories on achieving reunification by prevailing over communism or through absorption or merger are illusions that cannot be realized anytime. All the compatriots in the North and South and overseas must positively wage various joint struggles to isolate and weaken antireunification forces who are persistently kicking up maneuvers to internationally justify the country's division and to fabricate two Koreas and to crush their divisionist maneuvers. [applause]

Withdrawing U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea and turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone is an urgent task for removing a source of war in our country, saving our nation from the danger of nuclear war, and achieving peace in the fatherland and its peaceful reunification. The United States and the South Korean authorities have more frequently conducted nuclear war exercises against our Republic and babbled about our non-existent nuclear development, thus intensifying the situation in our country to the utmost. Out of its sincere desire to remove the danger of nuclear war, which is daily growing on the Korean peninsula, and bring an end to military confrontation and its antinuclear, peace-loving policy, the Government of the Republic advanced a new proposal a while ago to remove the source of nuclear war from the Korean peninsula.

Looking at today's overall changing situation, we see that it is time for the United States to reexamine its policy on Korea. If the United States truly supports our nation's reunification and is trying to guarantee peace on the Korean peninsula, the armistice agreement must be changed to a peace agreement. Then there will be no reason not to respond to our demand that it withdraw its forces and nuclear weapons from South Korea, and there will be no problems that cannot be solved in improving relations between Korea and the United States.

Even though it has deployed numerous weapons in South Korea and frequently conducted nuclear war exercises that threaten our Republic, the United States has raised the issue of nuclear inspection on someone else. This is unreasonable. Nuclear inspection should not be demanded only of us, even though we do not have any nuclear weapons. Nuclear inspection should be carried out simultaneously in South Korea, which does possess nuclear weapons. The South Korean authorities must stop clinging to the U.S. forces there; they must give up their ambition for a nuclear war; and they must stop avoiding the adoption of the North-South nonaggression declaration. South Korea must reduce its arms and must stop the aggressive "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, which aggravate the situation and can lead to military confrontation.

All the Korean compatriots in the North and South and overseas must more vigorously join in the pan-national struggle to oppose the maneuvers by the United States and the South Korean authorities to provoke a new war, to remove U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea, and to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free, peace zone.

It is important for all the political parties, organizations, and compatriots from all walks of life in the North and South and overseas to form organizational alliance in achieving great national unity and realizing the noble cause of reunifying Korea at the earliest possible date. For all the compatriots who are of the same view on reunification and patriotism to form alliance and be organizationally united into a single rank is a prerequisite for achieving solid national unity and guaranteeing the unity of action in waging the struggle to reunify the fatherland. The Pan-National Alliance for National Reunification, which was inaugurated according to a resolution adopted at last year's pan-national rally is a pan-national reunification movement organization that forces for reunification and patriotism in the North and South and overseas established through arduous struggles and has played an important role in strengthening chuche-oriented forces for reunification and expanding and developing the reunification movement.

Because of persistent hindrance and repressive maneuvers by the South Korean authorities, the southward advance of the grand Paektu-Halla reunification march team, which departed Mt. Paektu on the occasion of the 43d anniversary of the nation's liberation, was blocked, and its meeting with the grand Halla-Paektu reunification march team was not realized. In addition, the second Pan-National Rallies were held separately in Panmunjom, Seoul, and Tokyo. However, the nationwide enthusiasm for reunification, which was enhanced in the North and the South before and after and in the entire course of these rallies, was another important event which brilliantly decorated the history of our people's reunification movement. Such enthusiasm vigorously showed once again to the entire world that there is no strength in the world which can block the great fierce march of compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas who are advancing to reunification in firm unity in the same rank under the banner of great national unity. [applause]

All Korean compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas should more actively carry out various patriotic activities based on the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity in firm unity with the banner of the Pan-National Alliance for National Reunification. Thus, they will better contribute to expediting the sacred cause of national reunification, the long-cherished desire of all fellow countrymen.

Availing myself of this opportunity, I, in the name of all people in the northern half of the Republic, extend warm compatriotic support and encouragement to the people from various social strata, youths and students in South Korea who are persistently carrying out the sacred patriotic struggle for reunification by courageously overcoming repeated trials and difficulties even under very difficult and arduous conditions caused by maneuvers of the separatists at home and abroad. I also send warm compatriotic support and encouragement to all overseas Korean compatriots. [applause]

A number of obstacles are still laid on the road of struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland. However, our people will carry out a pan-national struggle to check and frustrate the maneuvers of the separatists in firm unity as one under the banner of great national unity based on patriotism and on the spirit of national sovereignty. Thus, we will make the 1990's a historic era for national reunification and achieve the national reunification without fail. [applause]

Today the course of changes in the international situation clearly proves the justness of independent, anti-imperialist foreign policy consistently maintained by our party and the government of the Republic.

The imperialists are loudly talking about the end of the cold war and the arrival of the era of peace. However, the international situation is still strained and complex. Moreover, acute confrontation between socialists and imperialists and between progressive and reactionary people is continuing.

The aggressive and plunderous nature of the imperialists has not changed in the slightest. The imperialists, including the U.S. imperialists who have become more arrogant today, are threatening global peace, and are more atrociously maneuvering to create difficulties and confusion in the people's struggle for independence and socialism.

The prevailing situation demands that the progressive people in the world and all peaceloving popular forces firmly unite and oppose all manner of dominationism including imperialism and colonialism and staunchly defend independence and thoroughly exercise their sovereign rights in international relations.

Independence, peace, and friendship are the basic ideal in the foreign policy of our Republic. The government of the Republic will, in the future, too, as in the past, develop friendly and cooperative relations with the peoples in many nations of the world including socialist countries and nonaligned countries and make an active contribution to the common struggle to build a free and peaceful new world and an independent and prosperous new Asia. [applause]

Our people are vigorously fighting and advancing for the just revolutionary cause under the wise leadership of the party and the leader by highly upholding the banner of the chuche idea and with overflowing confidence in and optimism for the future. Only victory and glory lay before us. [applause]

Let us all firmly unite with the party Central Committee headed by respected Comrade Kim Il-song and staunchly fight to occupy the lofty peak of socialism and expedite the independent and peaceful reunification of the fatherland. [applause]

Long live Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and our people! [applause and shouts of "Long live"]

Long live the glorious WPK, the organizer and guide of all victories of the Korean people! [applause and shouts of "Long live"]

Long live the DPRK, the glorious fatherland! [applause and shouts of "Long live"]

Leaders Lay Commemorative Wreaths

SK0909100491 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0907 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Pyongyang September 9 (KCNA)—Senior officials of the party and government, working people and soldiers of the Korean People's Army [KPA] today laid wreaths on the Revolutionary Martyrs Cemetery on Mt. Aesong and the Patriotic Martyrs Cemetery on the occasion of the 43rd anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Laid on the wreath-laying stand were wreaths sent by the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

O Chin-u, Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol and other senior officials were present at the wreath-laying ceremonies. The national anthem was played. And then amid the playing of wreath-laying music, wreaths were laid in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the DPRK and the Administration Council.

Wreaths were also laid in the name of the Ministry of People's Armed Forces, commission and ministries of the Administration Council, joint organization of the Korean Children's Union, working people's organizations, central organs, organs of science, education, culture and art, public health and the press, KPA units, and party and power bodies, administration and economic organs and working people's organizations in Pyongyang.

Wreaths were also laid before the Monument to the Fallen KPA Soldiers today.

The participants observed a moment's silence in memory of the martyrs.

Daily Marks 3d Anniversary of Kim Il-song Report

SK0809094791 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0848 GMT 8 Sep 91

["Mighty Ideological and Theoretical Weapon Leading Socialist Cause of Chuche to Victory"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang September 8 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today dedicates a by-lined article to the third anniversary of the publication of "Let Us Accomplish the Cause of Socialism and Communism Under the Revolutionary Banner of Chuche," a historical report of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song at the meeting held to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the DPRK on September 8, 1988.

Published at a time when the imperialists became more undisguised in their anti-socialist moves to disorganize socialist countries ideologically and socialist construction in our country was rising to a higher tide, this work gave our people and the world's revolutionary people firm conviction of victory in the cause of socialism and communism, the article says, and goes on:

For the scientific accuracy and profound and revolutionary nature of ideas and theories contained in it the work serves as a powerful weapon leading the cause of socialism and communism along the road of victory.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has said:

"Our line for the accomplishment of the cause of socialism and communism is correct and our goal is clear."

The work, above all, gives our people great national pride and conviction of sure victory through a review of the four decades of triumphant course traversed by our Republic.

The whole course of socialist construction covered by our Republic was a course of establishing chuche.

Our Republic has been able to advance triumphantly along a straight road to socialism and communismin the vortex of history deciding on the destiny of the revolution, because it has always firmly adhered to the independent stand, thoroughly applied the principle of continued revolution, strengthened the driving force of revolution and constantly enhanced its role.

The banner of socialism is being firmly safeguarded in our country and its advantages and might are being brought into fuller play today even under the conditions where the imperialists' anti-socialist moves are becoming more vicious than before. This is based on our people's immutable conviction of sure victory.

The work also indicates strategic tasks and ways of socialist construction, thereby providing our people with a guideline with which to more forcefully advance without the slightest deviations and setbacks.

The idea of strengthening the people's power and enhancing its functions constantly, pressing ahead with the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, to transform nature, man and social relations to meet the requirements of chuche and thus building a socialist, communist society is a precious guideline to be firmly adhered to by our people.

And the concrete tasks and ways of ransforming nature, man and society clearly indicate the way for our people to build socialism as they most correctly reflect the demand and interests of the masses and the requirements of the present times.

The work also indicates the fundamental principles and ways of accomplishing the cause of national reunification, the greatest cherished desire of the nation, thus encouraging our people to more vigorously turn out to the struggle to accelerate national reunification in keeping with the common demand and interests of the nation.

And it indicates the correct way for the peoples of all countries to attain free development and prosperity of their nations in a free and peaceful world without domination and subjugation, without aggression and war.

The strategic and tactical policies set out in the work serve as a highly important guideline in triumphantly advancing our revolution and the people's cause of independence.

South Korea

Belorussia Proposes Economic Cooperation Treaty

SK0909070091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0634 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 9 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Soviet Republic of Belorussia proposed here Monday signing a treaty with South Korea guaranteeing each other "most-favored condition" on economic and commercial cooperation and investment protection.

Belorussian Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich made the proposal in a meeting with Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok, ministry officials said.

Kebich is leading an eight-member delegation, the first from Belorussia, that arrived Friday.

Stressing the economic aspect of bilateral relations, Kebich also proposed that the two sides exchange trade offices in Seoul and Minsk, officials said.

A "treaty on the promotion of cooperation in the fields of economy, science and technology" prepared by Belorussia states that the Soviet republic and Korea "acknowledge extension of credits and investment" and provide "legal protection of investment."

It also calls for granting reciprocal "most-favored condition" for economic and commercial projects.

Yi responded that the government would review the proposal.

"Belorussia declared its independence from the Soviet Union Aug. 25 and we will have to wait and see whether Moscow officially recognizes the republic's independence, but we see no immediate problems in signing the treaty," one ministry official said.

Kebich requested that Yi attend a U.N. conference Sept. 20 in remembrance of the Chernobyl incident, in which 70 percent of the victims were Belorussians.

Yi promised to send an ambassadorial-level official to represent Korea.

Soviet Envoy Comments on ROK-USSR Relations

SK0809013891 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 8 Sep 91 p 2

[By staff reporter Kim Hye-won]

[Text] Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin wants to visit Korea despite his tight schedule and Koreans may look forward to his visit "in a certain period of time," Soviet Ambassador to Seoul Oleg Sokolov said.

He said he met Yeltsin's close associates when he was in Moscow last month and heard that President Yeltsin wants to come to South Korea.

"In that sense, his visit is on agenda. We, however, need to understand the time pressure upon him. But I think we may look to his visit in a certain period of time," Sokolov told THE KOREA HERALD Friday. He returned to his Seoul post Aug. 30 after a one-and-a-half-month vacation in Moscow.

He said the Korean Government delegation now on a Moscow visit is expected to discuss Yeltsin's Seoul visit with his aides.

Sokolov said the delegation, led by Assistant Foreign Minister Chang Man-sun, is also expected to return to

Seoul with a "clear" picture on what is going on in the Soviet Union, which will be useful for the Korean Government when it makes decisions on issues in Korea-Soviet relations including Seoul's $3 billion aid package.

The Korean Government virtually suspended the provision of the loans to the Soviets after the aborted coup in the Soviet Union.

He said the Korean officials will have plenty of opportunities in Moscow to discuss with both federal and republic officials the loan problem including distribution between the federal government and republics.

"The distribution is a matter which is indeed between the federal authority and republic authorities. I can say, however, that this cooperation will be going to the grassroots of our people," the ambassador said.

Seoul has provided $500 million in bank loans to the Soviet Union.

Sokolov urged the government and people of Korea to resume their aid to the Soviets as soon as possible.

"With all the economic difficulties that our country continues to face, we invite all the other countries to that kind of cooperation, and that fully applies to our relationship with the Republic of Korea.

"We hope our cooperation with Korea will be on the right track soon," he said.

Despite the recent decision by the Supreme Soviet legislature to form a new loose union, he said the foreign policy line pursued by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and former Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze will certainly continue and even be further invigorated. New Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin has already stressed this point, he said.

"Given this new structure of the union, there will be no barriers any more to free and unconstrained cooperation with the rest of the world," Sokolov said, adding that the federal and republican authorities will likely cooperate and act much more closely concerning economic and foreign policy.

Asked whether he views North Korea's recent decision to suspend the inter-Korean prime ministers' talks as related to the political turbulence in the Soviet Union, the envoy said the Soviet policy is to "encourage and fully support inter-Korean dialogue."

"The position of my country's leadership is the encouragement and full support for the earliest possible resumption of the inter-Korean talks.

"We believe it is important in any event to continue the dialogue as we see this as the only rational way of arriving at peaceful unification on the Korean peninsula."

PRC To Readjust Tariffs on ROK Goods

SK0809075691 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 8 Sep 91 p 1

[Text] It was learned that Korea and China will sign in Seoul toward the end of October a trade agreement which will feature China's full abolition of discriminatory tariffs levied on Korean-made products.

On 7 September, a highly placed government official said: Korea and China agreed in principle to sign a trade agreement at the earliest possible date during the first round of negotiations in Beijing last 26 August for concluding economic agreements. To sign the trade agreement, a 10-member Chinese Government delegation, led at the vice chairman level of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade [CCPIT], will come to Seoul at the end of next October.

Since China has levied discriminatory tariffs of from 5 to 30 percent on Korea-made products, the abolition of the tariffs was the greatest issue between the two countries.

The same government official said: At the Beijing negotiations, the two sides discussed the signing of an investment guarantee agreement in addition to the trade agreement. However, with the two sides showing great differences of opinion on how Korean businessmen can remit the profits earned from investment in China, Korea and China agreed to sign just the trade agreement for now. In particular, the Chinese side fully agreed to abolish the discriminatory tariffs.

The official continued: As Korea and China have no diplomatic relations, the agreement will be signed by the Korea Trade Promotion Association and CCPIT, and it will be guaranteed by the two governments afterward.

China has levied discriminatory tariffs on just three countries, Korea, South Africa, and Israel. China posted a surplus of $720 million in its trade with Korea last year, and the figure for the first half of this year was a surplus of $400 million.

General Motors Severs Ties With Daewoo

SK0709043291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0347 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sep. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—General Motors [GM] Corp. of the United States and the Daewoo business group of Korea, equal partners in Daewoo Motor Co., are severing ties, with the South Korean partner willing to take over the U.S. company's equity share, industry sources said Saturday.

GM had officially informed the Korean Government of the move and requested an arrangement to form a new joint venture with another Korean company, they said.

It had asked the presidential office, Chongwadae, and the Trade and Industry Ministry to mediate with the Ssangyong Group, which also has a motor company, in talks about a partnership, they said.

The government reportedly told GM it was not in a position to intervene in the affairs of a private company and GM should resolve its problems with Daewoo and Ssangyong on its own.

A government official said GM's reason for breaking with Daewoo after a 13-year relationship was dissatisfaction with Daewoo's management style, constant labor-management disputes and unilateral decision-making by Daewoo management.

A Daewoo official said GM had not officially notified Daewoo that it wanted to break up their partnership, and criticized GM for discussing private matters with the government and refusing to increase the capital of the joint venture.

He said Daewoo's top managers were still studying the proposal to buy out GM.

Daewoo suggested early this year that the capital of Daewoo Motor be increased by 200 million dollars—100 million dollars by each partner. GM refused.

GM contacted Ssangyong to discuss a joint venture, but Ssangyong refused to talks to GM, according to the sources.

GM is the world's largest automaker. It entered Korea in 1972 and established ties with Daewoo in July 1978, when Daewoo took over the equity of Saehan Motor Co.

UN To Serve as Channel for Contacts With North

SK0709042391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0410 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South and North Korean permanent missions at the United Nations will serve as the channel of inter-Korean contact and consultation until the time Seoul and Pyongyang set up such a mission in each other's capital, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Saturday.

South Korea will also seek a role in the United Nations compatible to its international status, such as a member in the U.N. Conference on disarmament and participation as member of non- permanent security council, he said.

Yi was addressing diplomatic policies after South and North Korea's U.N. entry at a symposium in Taejon sponsored by Kwanhun Club, a fraternity of senior Korean journalists.

South and North Korea are to become full U.N. members at the General Assembly convening Sept. 17.

South Korea's participation in the United Nations will include further contribution to its peace keeping operation, the foreign minister said.

"Some 70 nations have sent troops or provided various military assistance to 13 U.N. peace keeping activities, and many others are making voluntary financial contributions," he told the symposium.

"We, as a nation that has been helped by the United Nations during the Korean war, must contribute to its peace keeping efforts," he said.

North Korea's opening of its nuclear facilities to international inspection has become an international issue, Yi said, and South Korea will step up negotiations with other countries at the United Nations to resolve the issue.

Foreign Minister Offers To Join UN Forces

SK0809025591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 8 Sep 91 p 1

[Text] Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said yesterday that South Korea will consider taking part in U.N. peacekeeping operations (PKO) after she becomes a full member of the United Nations on Sept. 17.

He indicated that Korea is ready to dispatch its armed forces to world's trouble spots and offer logistical support for PKO, if necessary.

Minister Yi revealed the government intention in a speech to a symposium on South and North Korea's simultaneous entry into the U.N. in commemoration of Choe Pyong-u, former editor of THE KOREA TIMES. Choe died while covering the Chinese bombardment of Quemoy and Matsu Islands in the Taiwan Strait in 1958.

Yi said, "U.N. activities have expanded to realize its primary goal of maintaining world peace and stability. In that respect, the role of the U.N. secretary general and the peace-keeping operations have been increasing year by year.

"Our country will be requested to contribute to U.N. peace-keeping operations militarily as well as economically and we must do our part. We have to remember that we could not have repelled the North Korean invasion without the help of the United Nations during the 1950-53 Korean War," said Foreign Minister Yi.

He said, "The government will positively consider how and to what extent we will contribute to peace-keeping operations."

Yi recalled that some 70 countries have dispatched armed forces to 13 peace keeping operations around the world or offered financial and logistics support.

Another of Korea's foremost concerns regarding the U.N. role for maintaining peace and stability is arms control and disarmament which comprise military confidence-building, control of biological and chemical weapons and nuclear non-proliferation, Yi said.

Yi said, "North Korea's development of nuclear weapons is one of the most urgent security issues facing Korea as well as the whole world."

The government will contemplate taking actions to deal with the issue at the United Nations, if necessary, through consultations with friendly countries, while watching North Korea's signing of a nuclear safeguards agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency

(IAEA). Pyongyang declared that it would sign the safeguard accord with IAEA at its board of governors meeting to be held in Vienna Sept. 11-13.

Briefly commenting on South Korea's U.N. policy after both Koreas' admission to the global body, Minister Yi said that the government will promote cooperation at the U.N. forum rather than confrontation as was seen during the Cold War era.

He renewed a suggestion that ambassadors of the South and the North form a consultative body to seek a joint action on major issues, those relating to the interests of the Korean nation in particular.

The representative offices of the two Koreas in the U.N. headquarters may act as a permanent liaison office until such offices are established in Seoul and Pyongyang.

"South Korea doesn't have the slightest intention to overwhelm or embarrass North Korea at the U.N. forum, taking advantage of her superior economic power and diplomatic networks," said Yi.

North Tries To Isolate Southern Delegates

SK0709094591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0928 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—North Korea tried to isolate South Korean delegates attending a regional U.N. conference in Pyongyang saying the southern visitors came from a cholera-infected region, the delegation reported to the Foreign Ministry here Saturday.

North Korean officials demanded that the delegates be restricted to stay inside their hotel rooms and demanded that they be tested for cholera germs, the delegation said.

The officials changed its mind early Saturday morning, the opening day of the conference, after serious complaints by South Korean and other countries' delegates and guaranteed unrestricted activities for the Seoul participants, the report said.

South Korean Ambassador to Geneva Pak Su-kil arrived in Pyongyang Friday afternoon leading the delegation's advance team. The delegation is attending the ministerial meeting of the Asian group of the Group of 77, a regional preparation consultation before the United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) general meeting next February.

Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha, the chief delegate, is due in Pyongyang Monday for the meeting.

South Korea was struck by a sudden cholera epidemic last month, and North Korea, claiming it is fearful of similar contamination, insisted on delaying the inter-Korean prime ministers' meeting originally set for last week of August. The meeting was rescheduled to October.

Pak and the delegates presented their quarantine papers and refused to submit to further medical tests, the report said.

Delegates from other countries also complained to North Korean officials, saying it is unfair to demand isolation only for South Koreans when there are participants from six other cholera-infected countries.

Increased Cooperation With Taiwan Planned

SK0709095091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0725 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 7 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea and Taiwan on Saturday agreed to decrease their dependence on Japanese imports and turn to each other for substitution.

The agreement was reached between business leaders at the 24th South Korea-Taiwan Economic Cooperation Committee opened in Taipei Friday, officials at the Federation of Korean Industries (FKI) said.

Both countries are seeking to diversify their import sources to other countries than Japan, officials explained. A new government-level committee will be established to increase bilateral trade activities while a government-private joint body will study possibility of switching import sources from Japan to each other, the officials said.

South Korea and Taiwan also agreed to seek joint ventures into the Soviet Union and the East bloc and exchange information on such projects.

South Korean business leaders requested that Taiwan increase its import of South Korean auto parts and allow active participation in major construction projects in its six-year development program.

USSR Ends North's Fishing Privileges

SK0909101391 Seoul YONHAP in English 1001 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow, Sept. 9 (YONHAP)—North Korea has forfeited permission to take 200,000 tons of fish a year from Soviet waters free of charge by reselling part of the quota to Japan, Soviet officials said Monday.

They said Soviet patrol boats found 12 Japanese vessels flying North Korean flags May 12, 1990, illegally fishing in the Seas of Okhotsk and Kamchatka.

Pyongyang sold part of the quota, mostly for Alaskan pollack, to Japanese boats and let them hoist the North Korean flag, they said.

Moscow immediately demanded compensation of 10,000 rubles in cash for each captured boat and North Korea had to stop fishing in Soviet waters for lack of money.

In Moscow-Pyongyang fishery talks in February, the Soviet Union stripped North Korea of this year's quota of 200,000 tons, saying it had betrayed international law and a favor from a socialist brother.

North Korea instead was allowed to pay to catch 30,000 tons of Alaskan pollack. As a favor it was told it could fish 30,000 tons of sardine in Soviet waters and barter the pollack. North Korea is now catching only sardine, the officials said.

Forfeiture of the quota was a secret and is seen as a practical annulment of the core of the Moscow-Pyongyang fishing accord.

The Soviet Government, in dire need of foreign currency, is unlikely to grant free fishing rights to North Korea next year.

Editorial Views North's Nuclear Arms Threat

SK0609125291 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 5 Sep 91 p 2

[Editorial: "True Nature of North Korea's Nuclear Threat"]

[Text] ROK and U.S. security officials arranged a joint report meeting on the status of North Korea's nuclear development. During this meeting, they agreed that North Korea would be capable of arming itself with nuclear weapons in a few years and that it is necessary for the ROK and the United States to make joint international efforts to prevent it.

Intelligence reports about North Korea's nuclear development have been examined repeatedly, and people have worried about it. However, for the first time, the U.S. Government confirmed North Korea's development of nuclear weapons by saying that it is "certain." Furthermore, an information analyst of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and other officials almost openly explained this to our side, for the first time.

The nuclear arms race between the United States and the Soviet Union, which had strained the world, has been curbed, and the two countries have been on the way to reducing nuclear devices in the process of the Soviet Union's current restructuring. Under these circumstances, North Korea's heretic nuclear development is the most likely cause of sparking an arms race in this region, of inciting Japan to arm itself with nuclear weapons, and even of touching off nuclear proliferation in this region.

The United States made it clear on 1 August that the ROK would take the initiative in negotiations on the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula. In this way, it rejected North Korea's demand that it and the United States discuss the nuclear issue. Also, at about the same time, the ROK expressed its willingness to discuss the prevention of nuclear proliferation and other military issues with North Korea.

Therefore, the recent ROK-U.S. joint report meeting can be summarized both as a "conclusion" in which North Korea's development of nuclear weapons was confirmed and as a "start" in which a basis for the ROK's initiative in North-South negotiations on the nuclear issue has been confirmed. In this connection, we must do the following. First: Even though North Korea has said that it is willing to accept the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear inspection, it is stalling for time and accelerating its nuclear development. In this light, we must make more comprehensive and efficient international efforts to thwart North Korea's nuclear development program.

Second: North Korea has raised the nuclear weapons of the U.S. troops [in the ROK] as an issue. However, even when this issue is resolved, North Korea will still raise an issue out of the navigation of nuclear-powered submarines, based on the "mobile nuclear weapons" concept, and will try to stall for time again. Therefore, we must assume a resolute attitude without being swayed by any of North Korea's gestures other than practical steps in negotiations.

Third: Whether a country has nuclear weapons or not is important, and whether it has the intention of using them or not is important, as well. Therefore, we must remind North Korea that the United States did not use nuclear weapons in several military crises during the Korean war.

Fourth: Nuclear attack is the primary purpose of the development of nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapons that will be withdrawn as a result of the Soviet Union's current restructuring likely will be moved to the Far East. Therefore, we must alert North Korea to the possibility that the Korean peninsula will be surrounded by a thick "nuclear" wall.

As a matter of fact, North and South Korea have firepower sufficient enough to annihilate each other, if it were not for nuclear weapons. We again urge North Korea to judge reasonably whether it should possess nuclear weapons under these circumstances.

North Urged To Abandon Nuclear Weapons Work

SK0609213591 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 5 Sep 91 p 2

[Editorial: "North Should Abandon Its Lingering Affection for Nuclear Development"]

[Text] On 3 September, U.S. intelligence officials said that "North Korea undoubtedly is developing nuclear weapons and that it will be able to stockpile nuclear weapons in its arsenal within a few years." North Korea's development of nuclear weapons has been widely known for some time, and the international intelligence network has long been providing data on North Korea's nuclear development to the public. North Korea, however, has constantly denied such revelations, arguing that "we neither have the intention nor the ability to produce nuclear weapons." Nevertheless, a high explosives test on 26 June in Yongbyon, North Pyongan Province, which was apparently designed for the manufacture of a detonator for a nuclear warhead, has proven that North Korea's assertions are lies. So, the U.S. intelligence officials' comments on North Korea's nuclear capabilities are not new at all, except that they signify that the U.S. administration has made an official comment on North Korea's nuclear development for the first time. A high-ranking U.S. official said that "if North Korea keeps developing nuclear weapons, it runs the risk of causing nuclear proliferation in northeast Asia, and this will have a serious impact on the region's stability and global peace." This is precisely what we are concerned about.

North Korea is supposed to sign the nuclear safeguards accord at a council meeting of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] slated for 9 September in Vienna, Austria. Also, North Korea offered a proposal for converting the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone on 30 July. It is a political calculation to soften up at least part of its bellicose image that North Korea began to take such steps before its admission into the United Nations on 17 September. North Korea, however, should realize that times have changed and that no nation on earth is so gullible as to fall victim to its ruse as such. We think that North Korea, while accepting the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, will try to avoid an international nuclear inspection in practice. With what the nuclear safeguards accord currently in force stipulates, there is no way of imposing an international nuclear inspection on North Korea. Even if it accepts inspections, it is possible that North Korea will exclude nuclear reprocessing facilities from the list of targets for inspection that the host country and the IAEA are to discuss and agree upon for inspection. Also, there is a way for countries to develop nuclear weapons clandestinely.

If this happens, nuclear inspection can be ineffective and only nominal. So, agreeing to an international nuclear inspection does not necessarily mean that the host country will fulfill its international obligations. Iraq is a case in point.

The only way for North Korea to meet the call of the times is to completely abandon nuclear development. However, North Korea is expected to launch large-scale propaganda at the United Nations to force the United States to withdraw its troops from South Korea after signing the Nuclear Safeguards Accord and by capitalizing on its own proposal to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone.

This tactic, however, will fail to arouse sympathy in the international community and will only create difficulties for North Korea. The order of business for North Korea is to stop nuclear development and to stop calling on the U.S. troops to leave South Korea after abandoning its united front strategy of "liberating South Korea" and then making the proposal for converting the Korean Peninsula into a nuclear-free zone. North Korea is now in an economic shambles. As a result of extreme shortage of foodstuffs, people are forced to comply with a "two-meals-a-day" movement, and only half the number of plants are operating at full capacity owing to power shortages. North Korea has been trying to establish diplomatic relations with Japan and to improve its ties with the United States at the earliest possible date in order to overcome economic difficulties. We would like to ask the North Korean authorities whether they believe they can develop nuclear weapons and overcome the economic crisis simultaneously.

We wholeheartedly hope that North Korea will be successful in normalizing its relations with Japan and in improving its ties with the United States if for no other reason than to help people in North Korea improve the quality of their living. However, North Korea must wake up to the fact that unless it abandons its reckless and foolish dream called nuclear development, it can never hope to ride out the economic crisis and that it is an act of digging a grave for its own burial. Urging once again North Korea to abandon its nuclear development, we warn that we will watch to see whether it changes its attitude.

No Urges Aiding North in Reunification Process

SK0709000991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Sep 91 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u said yesterday that South Korea should help North Korea in its efforts to make embryonic changes in order to achieve national unification.

"The North has no choice but to change as the new trends are unavoidable, although the speed or the scope of the changes may be controversial," the President said.

"What we have to do now is help the North change in harmony with our unification formula," No told staff members of the Advisory Council for Democratic and Peaceful Unification.

The President was speaking before 50 members of the steering committee of the presidential organ at Chongwadae after giving them their letters of appointment.

He said that conditions for national unification have been developing in positive directions more than at any other times due to the reforms in the Soviet Union and North Korea's entry into the United Nations.

Government Seeks Broadcast Exchanges With North

SK0609130491 Seoul YONHAP in English 1228 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 6 (OANA-YONHAP)—The South Korean Government on Friday decided to seek inter-Korean broadcast exchange through the Asian Broadcasters Union (ABU).

The Committee for South-North Korean Broadcast Exchange said it may be possible to receive three to five minutes of North Korean news program daily through ABU's "Asia Vision" satellite network.

South Korea's state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) will rejoin Asia vision for the inter-Korean hookup, committee officials said after its first meeting.

North Korea applied for ABU membership in June, and three-fourths of ABU's 39 member nations voted to accept its membership. Pyongyang's membership becomes official when ABU holds its general assembly in Kuala Lumpur Oct. 5-16.

President No Tae-u had suggested in July that South and North Korea open their broadcast network to each other as part of a broad inter-Korean cooperation program.

The committee said it will start studying technical matters to connect the different transmitting system between the two sides.

No Tells Economic Ministers To Curb Inflation

SK0909062391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0446 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 9 (YONHAP)—President No Tae-u directed his 12 economic ministers Monday to make all possible efforts to curb inflation and the trade deficit and to restrict pleasure companies.

Top priority should be given to implementing consistent financial and tax policies, he told the economy-related ministers, governors of state-run banks and customs and tax administration chiefs.

"Next year's budget should have less spending on construction of government buildings, overseas travel by public servants and cultural and artistic activities," the chief executive said.

He told the Trade and Industry Minister Yi Pong-so to mobilize "all policy means" to strengthen the competitiveness of the manufacturing sector and exert utmost endeavors to ease the trade deficit.

He said the Labor Ministry should try to set the pay at an optimum level so korean goods are competitive on international markets.

DLP Urges More Measures To Curb Inflation

SK0709100791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0600 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 7 (YONHAP)—Leaders of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), describing current economic measures as "extremely insufficient," urged the government Saturday to make substantial efforts to reduce domestic demand.

In high-level DLP-government consultations, party leaders in unison said the government's measures were far from enough to improve the international balance of payments or curb inflation.

They called on the government to lower the target rate of economic growth, cut civil service recruitment and refrain from construction of new office buildings.

DLP chief policy-maker Na Ung-pae said the government should revise its plan to raise civil service pay 12.7 percent next year as it would fuel inflation.

He also said the government should be very careful in offering loans to the Soviet Union.

Prime Minister Chong Won-sik said the 12.7-percent salary hike for officials was to keep President No Tae-u's promise, but he would refer it to inter-ministerial consultation.

Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu said the total money supply growth rate would be frozen at between 17 percent and 19 percent, foreign currency loans would be reduced and construction of apartments would be strongly restricted until the year-end.

The session was also attended by DLP Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam, economic ministers and presidential aides, including senior Presidential Secretary for Political Affairs Son Chu-hwan.

It was agreed the DLP would pass 96 bills drafted by the government in the regular sitting of the National Assembly that opens Sept. 10. The DLP has 215 of the 299 Assembly seats.

Two Opposition Parties Plan Merger

SK0809020591 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 8 Sep 91 pp 2, 4

[Text] Kim Tae-chung, president of the leading opposition New Democratic Party [NDP], indicated yesterday that he and Yi Ki-taek, leader of the Democratic Party [DP] will declare a merger of their parties early this week.

Kim said the two parties were conducting negotiations on a party-to-party merger "smoothly" and were expected to finish it up shortly.

"I was told by our party negotiators that interparty talks are going well," he said in a meeting with a group of office workers.

Six negotiators, three from each side, are to meet again today to reconcile their differences on the distribution of posts in a unified opposition party and procedural matters, according to him.

He said if things go well, he and Yi will declare a merger of their parties at a news conference Monday at the earliest.

The NDP leader expressed hope that legal procedures regarding a unified opposition party, including registration with the law-enforcing authorities, will be completed before his planned visit to the Soviet Union. He is to embark on a 13-day overseas trip Sept. 17.

Negotiators of the two parties have struck an agreement on the principle of the merger, said an aide to Kim Tae-chung Friday.

Under the agreement, Kim and Yi will jointly lead the merged party in its daily affairs, although Kim will legally represent the party.

Party sources said there are few differences on the leadership formula of a unified opposition party, one of the thorniest problems hindering the success of a merge of the two parties.

The NDP, the DP and a group of dissidents will share posts in the new party at a ratio of 6-4-2, the sources predicted.

In yesterday's meeting, the NDP reportedly demanded that of five members of the supreme council of a merged party, three be selected from NDP officials, and the remaining two be picked from DP members.

But the DP rejected the demand. It urged that the number of supreme council members be increased to six, and three be chosen from each side, sources said.

NDP officials who appeared to heartily welcome a merger with the DP said the success of a "complete" merger depends on whether DP leader Yi Ki-taek can persuade some party members, mostly from the Kyongsang region to join the new party.

Reps. Pak Chan-chong and Kim Kwang-il remained vehemently opposed to an alliance of the two parties, calling it the NDP's "absorption" of the DP.

They said they would not join a merged party in which Kim Tae-chung takes the helm. They believe that a party led by Kim Tae-chung would lead them to lose the next legislative elections. Kim Tae-chung's party did not produce a single lawmaker in the Kyongsang region in the 1988 elections.

Kim Tae-chung, who apparently wants to run for the president again in late 1992, is anxious to lead a unified opposition party. He particularly desires to broaden support among residents of Kyongsang areas with Yi rallying behind him.

The NDP currently had 68 members of the National Assembly, while the DP has 10.

President No Tae-u last year merged his Democratic Justice Party with two opposition parties, creating the Democratic Liberal Party which controls over two-thirds of the 299-member National Assembly.

Editorial Views Merger

SK0809021091 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 8 Sep 91 p 6

[Editorial: "Accord on Opposition Merger"]

[Text] A move for the merger between the main opposition New Democratic Party [NDP] and the splinter opposition Democratic Party [DP] has gained momentum with their reaching an agreement on the leadership format of the projected party, the main stumbling block to the two-way integration. Only a week ago, the two parties officially abandoned their negotiations over the merger, due to sharp discord over the type of party leadership.

Their drastic agreement has been undoubtedly prompted by the feeling that unless the two unite, both will be defeated in the forthcoming general elections slated for early next year. But the immediate breakthrough came when Rep. Yi Ki-taek, leader of the minor DP made a significant concession with regard to the leadership system.

The DP was under pressure to choose one of the three leadership formats proposed by the NDP: a collective leadership with a monolithic leader, a "pure" collective leadership and a dual leadership with a standing party representative. The DP dismissed the three proposals, on the grounds that in any form of the leadership, NDP leader Kim Tae-chung would remain at the helm of the new party.

However, the DP has virtually accepted the third type, the dual leadership system in which the persons running the party will be the two leaders, Kim and Yi, with the former as the legal representative. In other words, the two will act as co-leaders in partisan affairs but Kim will be de jure representative.

What seems to be of negligible importance, the de jure leader will have great implications if the prospective party disintegrates because of factional strife. In that case, the legal representative will retain the party legitimacy against his opponents.

Under the agreed formula, the NDP will virtually annex the DP, except for Yi's obtaining nominal co-leadership with Kim. It is beyond doubt that NDP president Kim will exercise party authority with the stronger infrastructural organization.

According to a tentative agreement, partisan power will be shared in a ratio of six for the NDP, four for the DP and two for newcomers. This means that the NDP, the major faction will have the final say if the three factions split.

Interestingly enough, DP leader Yi and his followers have come to accept a compromise leadership formula little different from one of the three leadership types proposed by the NDP.

The immediate reason for this appears to be the 10 DP lawmakers and the several dissident NDP merger promoters' failure in their drive to merge themselves after their initial plan for a grand two-party merger hit a snag.

The DP lawmakers with multi-factional components have become increasingly impatient, as their in-party dissension worsened in the wake of the failure of their "little merger" and Assembly elections near.

On the other hand, Kim and his NDP have understandably maintained that the party has conceded what it ought to have conceded and that it is the DP that should assume responsibility for two-way unity. In fact, the DP's stance on the merger was unreasonably stubborn.

On the part of the NDP, it has an acute need to recruit particularly from Yongnam provinces where the party has little power as against the DP that has some. At the same time, NDP president Kim can earn personal fame for a successful merger.

As for DP leader Yi, his political future is almost doomed due to declining popularity, notably since his party's humiliating defeats in the recent local council elections. He desperately needs a reinforcement.

Their mutual necessity has thus precariously achieved a tentative agreement on the two-party integration. But there are a number of knotty problems including the selection of party candidates for the general elections. Voices against the merger plan are already being heard loudly especially from non-mainstream currents of the DP, who avowed not to share their fate with NDP leader Kim.

Two More Cholera Cases Confirmed in Pusan

SK0909110991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0752 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 9 (YONHAP)—The Health and Social Affairs Ministry announced Monday that two cholera victims have been confirmed in Pusan and another one is suspected.

The Ministry has sent an epidemiological investigation team to Pusan to find out how they caught the disease.

It urged people to take hygiene precautions as cholera was being reported sporadically outside the area of the epidemic's outbreak in Sochon in mid-August.

Burma

Minister Back After Discussing Thai Monks' Titles

BK0309140791 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Lieutenant General Phone Myint, member of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] and minister of home and religious affairs and information and culture, and his delegation flew back to Yangon [Rangoon] at 1745 today after coordinating with the Thai Government on the conferring of Abhidajja Maharata Guru and Agga Maha Panditta religious titles to the senior monks in Thailand.

Lt. Gen. Phone Myint and his delegation were welcomed back at Yangon airport by Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC; Maj. Gen. Tin U, secretary-2 of the SLORC; Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon Division Law and Order Restoration Council; U Ohn Gyaw, deputy minister of foreign affairs; high-ranking officials from the Defense Ministry; Mr. Suraphong Posayanon, Thai ambassador to Myanmar [Burma]; Colonel (Chuchat Chasathira), Thai naval attache to Myanmar; directors general and managing directors of departments and enterprises under the Ministry of Home of Religious Affairs and the Ministry of Information and Culture; and friends and relatives.

Those who also returned with the minister are U Zaw Lwin, director general of the Buddhism Propagation Department; U Myint Thein, deputy director of the Police Criminal Investigation Department; U Aung Thein Nyunt, assistant director of the Buddhism Propagation Department; and Major Soe Win Kyaw, personal aide to the minister. U Ant Maung, director general of the Religious Affairs Department, and members of his delegation, who were in Thailand to make neccesary preparations, also returned today.

External Influence Blamed for Rising Rice Prices

BK0209123591 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Excerpts] The work coordination meeting of the Commodities Distribution and Price Regulation Committee [CDPRC] was held at the meeting hall of the Ministry of Cooperatives on Bogyoke Aung San Road in Yangon [Rangoon] at 0930 this morning. Major General Tin U, secretary-2 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, attended the meeting and delivered an address.

Also present at the meeting were Brigadier General Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade; Brig. Gen. Kyaw Tint, joint-quartermaster general of the Defense Ministry and chairman of the Armed Forces Commodities Control Committee [AFCCC]; Brig. Gen. Maung Maung, commander of the No. 502 Air Force Base and chairman of the CDPRC Central Committee; Commodore Tin Ngwe, commander of the Irrawaddy Naval Headquarters and secretary of the Central Committee; regional commanders and township zone law and order restoration council members; members of the AFCCC; U Saw Aye Ko, director general of the cooperatives department and responsible personnel; U Myo Myint, chairman of the Central Cooperative Society and Executive Committee members; departmental officials from the Myanmar Agricultural Produce Trading [MAPT], Inland Water Transport, and Prisons Departments; responsible personnel from Joint Venture Corporation No. 2 and the Cooperative Wholesale and Rice Products Administration Committee; chairmen and Executive Committee members of the Yangon Division township cooperative sydicate; responsible personnel from the armed forces welfare shops; township cooperative department officials; chairmen of township cooperative societies; managers; and invited guests.

First, Maj. Gen. Tin U urged that the practical grass roots-level facts be frankly presented at the meeting. Today, while the country is diverting to a market economy, we must work with a spirit of nationalism to achieve economic success locally as well as abroad. The state, cooperatives, joint-ventures, and the private sector should work equally and together in good faith to achieve success in their respective sectors. Rice and edible oil prices began to fluctuate on the basis of the news of floods in the Irrawaddy Division and drought in upper Myanmar [Burma]. We need to take effective measures in response to false rumors that create an unstable political situation, and to fabricate news that frightens the people about the scarcity of rice and oil. [passage omitted]

Brig. Gen. Abel, minister for planning and finance and for trade, next said in his speech that commodity prices are soaring because of the Irrawaddy Division floods and upper Myanmar drought news. It should be considered whether the unwarranted speculation in commodity prices is fair to the people who are the real consumers.

The state, which is today utilizing a market economy, is also granting support and help to the private and cooperative sectors, especially the cooperative sector—which is a very basic unit of organization that is in contact with the people and knows their needs. The cooperative societies should work in a more commercialized manner.

Continuing, he said if you study the country's annual paddy cultivation, paddy is cultivated on more than 12.3 million acres, of which 11.7 million acres are successful. Total annual output is more than 660 million baskets [one basket equals about one bushel] of paddy based on the calculation of a yield of 56.92 baskets per acre. After deducting for seed grains, waste, and self-consumption by farmers, there are still 127 million baskets of paddy left and that is why the country has sufficient rice annually. There is no reason for there to be a rice shortage or rice supply problems.

He added that at present, regarding rice stocks on hand, we are in a position to distribute one or two months' quotas of rice in advance to consumers. The rumors predicting rice shortages are due to the Irrawaddy Division floods. The amount of cultivated land that has been destroyed has amounted to a mere six-figure number which, compared to all the cultivated land in the country, is not serious. There are other cultivated areas in Irrawaddy division not affected by floods. There are also paddy cultivated areas in Yangon and Pegu divisions, and in Mon and Arakan states. [passage omitted]

The managing director of MAPT, U Soe Thein, next took the stand. [passage omitted] He said the economic theory of supply and demand cannot be applied in this particular rice situation. Although there is a sufficient amount of rice with the MAPT, cooperatives, and joint-venture corporations, the price of rice is soaring in some regions. By looking at this trend, it can be clearly concluded that an external dark influence is involved. There is absolutely no need to worry about rice, since there are sufficient amounts for emergency use, export, and local consumption. [passage omitted]

Parties Warned 'To Stop Deceiving' Government

BK0409135291 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] The Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs, Government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] has issued Warning Notice [Thadi Pay Kyae Nyar Jet] No. 1 today—4 September 1991.

The text of the warning notice reads:

1. In order to provide safeguards and control over the different conditions in the nation, the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC]—the Defense Services—has been giving due emphasis to the three main tasks [to prevent the disintegration of the union, to prevent the disintegration of national unity, and to safeguard the sovereignty] and, as promised, has already held multiparty democratic general elections. Moreover, it has also prescribed the steps that should be taken in the future.

2. This being the case, a warning must be issued that the time has come for the political parties and organizations and some public service personnel to stop deceiving and playing tricks on the government—the Defense Services.

Signed: Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister

Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs

Student Front 'Subversive Elements' Arrested

BK3008131591 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Aug 91

[Text] Between 5 and 25 August, the Military Intelligence Service was able to expose and arrest the contacts of, as well as subversive elements from the terrorist insurgent ABSDF's [All Burma Students' Democratic Front] 207th Battalion, who were sent in by the terrorist insurgent KNU [Karen National Union] to disrupt peace and tranquillity, and to conduct subversive work in Yangon [Rangoon].

Private Aung Thu of the ABSDF's 207th Battalion surrendered without arms at the 203d Light Infantry Regiment on 5 August 1991. He disclosed that he was sent on a subversive mission by Ko Thein, chairman of the ABSDF's 207th Battalion, and brought along explosive devices from the border that he discarded near Shansu railway station in Mandalay on 1 August 1991. The discarded explosive devices—three plastic explosives, nine electric detonators, two coils of plastic fuses, and one packet of gunpowder packed in a fertilizer bag—were found and confiscated on 6 August 1991.

According to information provided by Aung Thu, Soe Win, alias Nga Paw, son of U Khin Kyi, residing at 687 Thumarlar Road, No. 2 Ward, North Okkalapa Township, who is a seller of toiletries and a member of the Democracy Party, was arrested together with nine electric fuses, 16 ordinary fuses, one packet of (Jaledmite) plastic explosives, and one strip of white plastic gunpowder on 5 August 1991. Soe Thu's hardcore UG [underground communist] accomplice, Naw Myo Aung—alias War Oo, a private medicine shop worker from Mingala market, son of U Saw Tharyan, residing at 194 Okponzein 1st street, No. 8 ward, Mayangon township—was arrested together with his and Soe Win's secret contact codes.

Tin Tun, alias Tun Khin—who attended demolition training together with Aung Thu and returned to the country from the ABSDF's 207th Battalion; who is the son of U Kyi, residing at 77-99/A Thanlwin road, 10th ward, Kamayut township; and who is a mechanic and the National League for Democracy's [NLD] information officer for that ward with party membership number 12005709—was arrested on 17 August 1991.

Soe Min, a private rubber factory worker, son of U Tar Naw, residing at Aung Saing village, Thaton township, was arrested on 20 August 1991.

Based on incriminating information—disclosed by Aung Thu, Nay Myo Aung, alias War Oo, Soe Win, Soe Min, and Tin Tun, alias Tun Khin—Thein Nyunt, alias Po Toke, a house painter, son of U Thaung Nyunt, residing at No. 1049 Thida street, No. 2 ward, North Okkalapa township, and Aung Tun, alias Rakhinelay, a house painter, son of U Myint Kyaw, residing at No. 1051 Thida street, were arrested on 9 August 1991.

Khin Hlaing, a junior assistant teacher from the No. 4 state high school, North Okkalapa township, was arrested on 11 August 1991 in possession of two propaganda cassette tapes.

Win Cho—son of U Ye Lwin residing at 135/J Thanlwin road, No. 10 ward, Kamayut township, and the NLD's information officer for that ward with party membership number 0027041—was arrested on 19 August 1991 with some propaganda leaflets.

Myo Kywe—a building materials broker, son of U Ohn Kywe, residing at No. 599 Sanyeiknyein 6th street, Kamayut township, and an NLD youth member—was arrested on 25 August 1991.

Hla Min—son of U Soe, residing at 12/B Thanlwin road, Kamayut township, and the NLD's acting propaganda chief for No. 10 ward, Kamayut township—was taken into custody on 23 August 1991.

Hla Tun, alias Hla Win, a trishaw peddler, son of U Chit Sein, residing at Railway Station road, Nankhe Ward, Thaton, was arrested on 20 August 1991.

Kyaw Ngwe, a trishaw peddler, residing at No. 4 Circular Road Nankhe Ward, Thaton, was arrested on 13 August 1991.

Ba Shin, son of U Shwe Aung, residing at No. 68 Setpaing Ward, Hlaingbwe, was arrested on 19 August 1991.

Arrangements are being made to take legal action against those arrested and continuing efforts are being made to expose and arrest those involved.

Arrests of NLD Members, Youths Reported

BK3108114191 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 30 Aug 91

[Text] Between 20 and 25 August, the Military Intelligence Service [MIS] was able to expose and arrest the hardcore elements, their contacts, as well as the youths from the liberated zone of the National League for Democracy [NLD], who were sent in from the jungle and the NLD's liberated zone by Sein Win's National Coalition Government [NCG] to create unrest and disturb the peace and tranquillity as well as to conduct organizational, propaganda, and agitation activities in the Pegu, Kyauktaga, Penwegon, and Nyaunglebin areas.

According to information provided by dutiful citizens, Zaw Lin Tun and Kyaw Htay, members of the group led by Tun Aung Kyaw, Kyaukkyi township organizer from the youth wing of the NLD liberated zone, were planning to perform underground activities in the city via the Nyaunglebin-Madauk area. Acting on that information, Zaw Lin Tun, aged 19, a market seller and NLD member—party membership number 2100040—son of U Tin Nyunt residing at North Kwin ward, Hninsi road, Kyauktaga, and Kyaw Htay, aged 23, a student and youth organizer of the Kyauktaga township NLD party, son of U Nyo residing at 3d Street, Ayechantha Ward, Waw, were arrested together with a document assigning them to perform underground activities in the city. The document was signed by Sein Win, chairman of the Central Organization Committee of the NLD liberated zone. They also had two propaganda "Nay-Win-Ni-Ni" cassette tapes and other documents, which were all seized by MIS members at Nyaunglebin railway station at 0930 on 20 August.

Zaw Lin Tun disclosed that he arrived at the Kawsa camp of the KNU [Karen National Union] terrorist insurgent group on 10 July 1991 and met Hla Pe, a member of the NCG, in the jungle. On 24 July 1991, Hla Pe requested that he deliver propaganda video tapes, cassette tapes, and pamphlets to Po Chit, alias San Lin, a worker and member of the Kyauktaga township NLD party youth wing, son of U Maung Aye residing at Kwindaw ward, Kyauktaga, which he delivered. After he returned from Po Chit, Zaw Lin Tun spent the night at the house of Hla Thaung, a villager from Yintaikgon village, with the help of Kyaw Lwin, who is a NLD member, and later returned to Kawsa camp. Then, on 19 August, Zaw Lin Tun, together with Kyaw Htay, who was already in Kawsa camp, left the camp for Pegu with propaganda cassette tapes, papers, documents, and a video tape, and the two were arrested at Nyaunglebin railway station.

Po Chit, alias San Lin, son of U Maung Aye, residing at Kwindaw ward, Kyauktaga, was arrested on 20 August. After interrogation he revealed that Khin Moe Moe, aged 19, daughter of U Ba Chit, residing at East Market ward, Kyauktaga, came and visited him on 24 July 1991 and he went along with her to Ma Cho's house where he met Zaw Lin Tun, and received the propaganda cassette tapes, papers, documents, and one video tape. He distributed 13 cassette tapes, some papers, and some documents to Kyaw Lwin, son of U Mya Maung, residing at Sartaik ward, Kyauktaga, and seven cassette tapes, some papers, and documents to Win Khaing, son of U Naw Tin residing at Pyithawtha ward, Penwegon. He kept for himself the video tape of the third Burma Human Rights Day ceremony celebrated at the KNU headquarters in Manerplaw on 13 March 1991.

In connection with this, Kyaw Lwin, market seller and an executive committee member of the Kyauktaga township NLD party—party membership number 3430008—son of U Mya Maung, residing at Sartaik ward, Kyauktaga; Win Khaing, member of the Patriotic Old Comrades League [POCL] party, residing at Pyithawtha ward, Penwegon; Khin Moe Moe, daughter of U Ba Chit, residing at East Market ward, Penwegon; Ma Cho, daughter of U Kyaw Yin, residing at Myat Lay street, North Kwin ward, Kyauktaga; and Zaw One Two, a farmer and NLD party member, son of U Than Hteik, residing at Yeshan village, Kyautaga township, were all arrested on 22 August.

Kyaw Win Naing, son of U Nyunt Hlaing, residing in the guest house compound, Gondaw ward, Penwegon; Tin Soe, a farmer, NLD party member and executive committee member of the Kyauktaga township POCL party—party membership number 0070—son of U Soe Maung, residing at Tawkyweinn village; San Tin, a farmer and NLD party member, son of U Kaw residing at Inngyi village; Maung Win, son of U Min Aung, residing at Khittaya ward, Kyauktaga; Hla Thaung, a farmer and executive committee member of the Kyauktaga township NLD party, son of U Ba Chit, residing at Yintaikgon village; Myint Maung, a farmer, NLD party member and chairman of Tawkyweinn village POCL party, son of U Chit Hlaing, residing at Tawkyweinn village; Ma Than Kywe, a farmer and NLD party member, daughter of U Sein Maung, residing at Sartaik ward, Kyauktaga; and Maung Maung, a market seller and NLD party member, son of U Tun Win, residing at Theikpankyaung street, Pyithawtha ward, Kyauktaga, were all exposed and arrested on 24 August.

Arrangements are being made to take legal action against those arrested and efforts are continuing to expose and arrest others who are involved.

Sein Win, U Nu 'Parallel' Governments Denounced

BK3008150791 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 29 Aug 91

[Press Release No. 15/91 of the Commission for Multi-party Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar, dated 29 August]

[Text] Subject: The commission hereby announces the following report submitted by a registered political party which had been put on record.

The All Myanmar Naing Ngan [Burma] National Progressive Democracy Party had sent a correspondence regarding its position on the Sein Win parallel government based in the jungles. The letter stated that since its inception it was never under influence of any party and had proclaimed the party's political principles and democratic aspirations to Myanmar and the world. The proclamation which stated qualifications and standards expected of persons, who will lead under a democratic system, was broadcast on 10 April 1990 on the Voice of Myanmar [Radio Burma] and Myanmar Television Service [Rangoon Burma Television Network] on 10 April 1990.

Therefore, it can be seen that actions of Sein Win run counter to the stated ideology and policy of our party. Our party absolutely does not support his movements and actions or similar actions and movements, and our party denounces such actions.

The All Myanmar Naing Ngan National Progressive Democracy Party has sent a letter to U Nu's parallel government, describing such formation of U Nu's parallel government as the second mistake he made in Myanmar, the first being his activities as an exile, and stated that such action will not go down well in history. It can be seen in the current context that Sein Win had copied this precedent. Therefore, our party categorically objects to U Nu's parallel government.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Paramount Ruler Meets Li Peng in Beijing

BK0809071891 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng has voiced his country's support for the East Asia Economic Grouping, EAEG. He said the region needs such an economic cooperation network.

He conveyed his country's stand to His Majesty the Yang DiPertuan Agong [Paramout Ruler] Sultan Azlan Shah at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. Mr. Li Peng told His Majesty that the proposal mooted by Malaysia is especially vital in view of increasing economic protectionist practices.

Details of the 15-minute discussion were revealed to the Malaysian press covering His Majesty's visit by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Datuk Ahmad Kamil Jaafar.

Mr. Li Peng said China would also study in detail the ASEAN decision on the EAEG. His Majesty also invited President Yang Shangkun to visit Malaysia next year.

Meanwhile, her majesty the queen, Tuanku Bainun, who has a separate program, visited the famed Great Wall of China. Their majesties' visit has received wide coverage in the local English and Mandarin media.

Singapore

Government Recognizes Baltic States' Independence

BK0609143091 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Singapore has recognized the sovereignty of independence of the Baltic states. A Foreign Ministry statement says that the republic is also ready to establish diplomatic relations with them. The statement says the three Baltic States have by their declaration of independence, taken the first step towards establishing their rightful place in the international community of nations.

The government and people were encouraged to [words indistinct] in seeking a peaceful path to independence. The statement adds that recent events in the Soviet Union had made its possible for the Baltic states to become independent.

Singapore welcomes these developments.

President Wee To Make 8-Day State Visit To PRC

BK0809130291 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] President Wee Kim Wee will begin a state visit to China tomorrow. A Foreign Ministry statement said the 8-day visit is at the invitation of President Yang Shangkun.

President Wee will be accompanied by the first lady; the minister for labor and second minister for education, Mr. Lee Yock Suan; the foreign affairs minister, Mr. Wong Kan Seng; and the minister of state for national development, Mr. Lim Hng Kiang. Also in the delegation are members of parliament Mr. K. Shanmugam and Mr. Ho Peng Kee, and senior government officials.

President Wee will meet President Yang after a ceremonial welcome at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. President and Mrs. Wee will attend a state banquet to be hosted by President Yang. The President will later meet General Secretary Jiang Zemin, and Premier Li Peng.

After Beijing, they will visit Xian, Kunming, Guangzhou, (?Foshan), and Zhuhai.

The chief justice, Mr. Justice Yong Chong Hee will act as president during the period of the visit.

Goh Chok Tong Announces New Cabinet Line-Up

BK0509145891 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1400 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Text] The Prime Minister's Office has announced the new cabinet lineup. The statement released today said that the main portfolios remained largely unchanged. But the post of minister for community development has gone to Mr. Yeo Cheow Tong. He also remains as health minister. The labor minister, Mr. Lee Yock Suan, takes on an additional portfolio as second minister for education. Mr. Mah Bow Tan is the minister for communications. The education minister, Dr. Tony Tan, will relinquish his portfolio on the 31st of December. The national development minister, Mr. S. Dhanabalan, will relinquish his portfolio in 12 months' time.

The statement says both ministers for some time before the general election have been asking the prime minister to let them step down to return to the private sector. They asked not to be fielded in the election, but they agreed to Mr. Goh Chok Tong's request that they stay on to contest the election as part of his team.

The new officeholders include Mr. Lim Boon Heng. He was appointed senior minister of state for trade and industry; Mr. Lim Heng Kiang, minister of state for national development; and Dr. Ong Chit Chung, parliamentary secretary for home affairs and labor.

Other candidates involved parliamentary and political secretaries. Mr. Mohamed Mydin Packer Mohamed is parliamentary secretary for information and the arts; Mr. Matthias Yao Chih, parliamentary secretary for defense; Mr. Zukifli Mohamed, political secretary to the deputy prime minister; Mr. Ong Teng Cheong and Mr. Tan Guan Seng, political secretaries to the prime minister.

The statement also says that with effect from 2d January next year, Dr. Ker Sin Tze will be appointed minister of state for information and the arts and for education. This will be for a period of two years with specific assignments, after which he wishes to continue with his present work.

As for Mr. Peter Sung, who was the minister of state for national development and home affairs, the prime minister said he had wanted to reappoint him, but Mr. Sung told Mr. Goh he wanted to return to the private sector. Mr. Goh said he could not persuade him and therefore reluctantly accepted his suggestion. But he wanted to put on record his thanks to Mr. Sung for his contributions for the Ministry of Home Affairs, National Development, and Foreign Affairs over the past few years.

The portfolios which remained unchanged are as follows:

Mr. Goh Chok Tong	Prime Minister
Mr. Lee Kuan Yew	Senior Minister, Prime Minister's Office
Mr. Ong Teng Cheong	Deputy Prime Minister
Brig. Gen. Lee Hsien Loong	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry
Dr. Ahmad Mattar	Minister for the Environment and Minister in charge of Muslim Affairs
Dr. Yeo Ning Hong	Minister for Defence
Prof. S. Jayakumar	Minister for Law, and Minister for Home Affairs
Dr. Lee Boon Yang	Minister in Prime Minister's Office, and Second Minister For Defense
Dr. Richard Hu	Minister for Finance
Mr. Wong Kan Seng	Minister for Foreign Affairs
Brig. Gen. George Yeo	Minister for Information and the Arts and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs
Dr. Lee Boon Yang	Minister in Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister for Defense
Dr. Tay Eng Soon	Senior Minister of State of Education
Mr. Ch'ng Jit Koon	Senior Minister of State for Community Development
Dr. Aline Wong	Minister of State for Health
Mr. Sidek Saniff	Minister of State for Education
Mr. Lee Yiok Seng	Senior Parliamentary Secretary for National Development
Mr. Ho Kah Leong	Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Information and the Arts
Mr. Yatiman Yusof	Parliamentary Secretary for Foreign Affairs
Mr. Harun Abdul Ghani	Political Secretary to the minister of Home Affairs

The prime minister and his cabinet colleagues will be sworn into office by the President at 4.00 pm [0800 GMT] on Saturday [7 September].

New Cabinet Sworn In

BK0709113291 Singapore Singapore Broadcasting Corporation in English 1100 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Singapore's new 15-member cabinet was sworn into office today by President Wee Kim Wee at a simple ceremony at the istana [palace]. The changes in the line-up of the prime minister, Mr. Goh Chok Tong, involved senior ministers.

Mr. Mah Bow Tan, who was the acting minister for communications, is now a full minister. He has relinquished his post in the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Two other ministers have been given second portfolios. Mr. Lee Yock Suan, the labor minister, has taken on the post of second minister for education, while Mr. Yeo Cheow Tong, the health minister, is also in charge of the Ministry of Community Development. Other members of the government also took office today. These are the ministers of state, parliamentary secretaries, and political secretaries. [passage omitted]

Lee Kuan Yew Views Goh Chok Tong, Elections

BK0909105791 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 9 Sep 91 p 3

[By Sumiko Tan]

[Text] The general election results were a disappointment given Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong's popularity, Mr Lee Kuan Yew said yesterday.

"He was right to be disappointed because the voters gave him very strong signals, or he would not have brought forward the election," the senior minister noted.

Making his first public appearance since the Aug 31 polls, Mr Lee said that he did not consider the number of constituencies lost—whether one or six—as a critical factor in the election.

"The number of seats that could be lost was always a variable, an open question," he told reporters after a victory tour of Tanjong Pagar GRC [Group Representative Constituencies].

He put this down to Singapore voters becoming "very personalised" in their voting.

"They compare two candidates.

"They are keen on an opposition, so the moment there is a credible opposition, the opposition gets a tremendous advantage," he said.

In his view, the critical factor was the total level of votes which the People's Action Party [PAP] received, and the drop from 63.2 percent in the 1988 election to 61 percent was a disappointment.

Noting that only 40 out of 81 seats were contested this time, he added that a fairer comparison would have been made if, like 1988, 70 seats were up for election.

Could the trend of voters taking a personalised view be checked?

Mr Lee said that it could if voters were looking for their own individual benefits.

Explaining, he said that in the next four to five years, the four opposition MPs [members of Parliament] must prove to voters that they can do better than the PAP MPs.

And the PAP, in the meantime, is likely to set up a task force to make sure their MPs do better in their constituencies.

Voters will then decide which MP is better at the next election.

But if Singaporeans want to vote for the opposition, regardless of what the PAP or opposition candidate can offer, the trend may not be checked, he said.

Mr Lee did not want to make further comments on the election, saying that the PAP's post-mortem committee was still analysing the the results.

Cambodia

Phnom Penh Reports 20-28 Aug Truce Violations

BK0609135991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Despite the fact that the UN military team was on a trip to monitor the cease-fire and the ending of foreign military aid, the Pol Pot and Son-Sannian groups continued to fire artillery shells and transport war materiel from the other side of the border into areas adjacent to the defense line of our State of Cambodia's Armed Forces. They also robbed and killed the people and aimed sniper fire at transportation trucks.

During the past week, the Pol Pot and Son-Sannian groups conducted such activities on 31 occasions, firing artillery shells on 11 occasions; laying four ambushes on passenger trucks, killing nine passengers and wounding 13 others; and stealing (?56) oxen and buffaloes, a motorcycle, a radio receiver, a sum of 30,000 riel, and a quantity of food supplies and property.

As a matter of fact, at 0500 on 20 August, the Pol Pot-Sereika groups fired support shells into an area east of Stoung [Kompong Thom Province] and planted land mines in an area 10 km east of Prasat Sambo District, wounding 10 inhabitants.

On Route 10 on 24 August, the Pol Pot clique fired 22 rounds of 100-mm mortar shells from an area 6 km southeast of Treng. The shells landed in an area 3 km south of Treng.

On 22 August the Pol Pot clique fired two rounds of H107-mm shells into an area 6 km from (?Sisophon). At 0600 on the same day Pol Pot soldiers from division (?450) fired eight rounds of 82-mm cannon shells into an area (?5) km south of Nimit.

Also in Banteay Meanchey Province, on 23 August the explosion of land mines planted by Sereika soldiers in an area 3 km west of M'kak killed two inhabitants.

At 0030 on 25 August, a group of Sereika soldiers plundered 20 oxen belonging to people in an area 17 km east of Svay Chek.

At 0900 on 25 August, the Sereika soldiers stole 16 buffaloes belonging to people in an area 5 km northeast of Phnum Srok District.

In Battambang Province on 26 and 28 August, the Pol Pot clique fired between 30 to 60 rounds of 120-mm and 100-mm mortar and H107-mm shells into (?Ta Hen) 10 km south of Bavel District.

At 0700 on 28 August, the Pol Pot soldiers fired 120-mm, 85-mmm, and 100-mm mortar shells and sent infantrymen to attack our position 14 km northwest of Treng.

These shellings in violation of the unlimited cease-fire, the robberies, and the killing of our people committed by the Pol Pot and Son-Sannian soldiers during the past week clearly show that the Pol Pot and Son-Sannian groups are going against our people's desire for genuine peace.

Demand on Genocide Reference Reiterated

BK0709114991 Phnom Penh Samleng Prachcachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Station commentary: "If Pol Pot Crimes Are Forgotten?"]

[Text] At the official meeting of the Cambodian Supreme National Council in Phatthaya, Kingdom of Thailand, from 26 to 29 August, the State of Cambodia side made another concession to the other Cambodian side by not demanding that the word genocide—which is strongly opposed by the party of Democratic Kampuchea—be included in the political solution, but instead only proposing that it be included in the draft agreement when referring to the international convention on the prevention and punishment of genocidal crimes.

Does this mean that the Cambodian people are willing to forget the savage and barbarous crimes the Pol Pot clique had committed against the Cambodian people from 1975 to 1979? Everyone knows that, like all mankind, the Cambodian people—who survived the massacre with clubs, bamboo stumps, pickax heads, and oxcart wheel spokes—constantly bear the suffering and harbor anger against this savage and brutal crime of the Pol Pot clique, which is worse than the fascist Hitler group.

In only three years, eight months, and 20 days, more than 3 million Cambodians were massacred by the Pol Pot group, and more than 635,000 houses, 1,970 monasteries, 108 mosques, 5,860 schools, and 800 hospitals and dispensaries were completely destroyed by this group. Furthermore, over the past 12 years, while the Cambodian people have been undertaking the process of developing the motherland from ashes with bare hands, the Pol Pot clique—which has taken refuge in sanctuaries and with the collusion of a number of reationary Cambodians—has carried out activities to destroy, plunder, and massacre people along the Cambodian-Thai border and in remote areas.

While the wounds of old crimes and destruction have not yet even healed, new destruction and crimes have been committeed by this group. Most seriously, the Pol Pot clique has not only massacred our people in remote areas who oppose the group but also leveled accusations and slander against those who are serving and dying on the clique's behalf; these people were eventually killed.

According to Amnesty International, the Pol Pot clique killed 30 of its members accused of being ringleaders of an internal revolt. Raoul Jenner, a diplomatic adviser of nongovernmental organizations, disclosed early this year that the Pol-potists will continue to fight if they are discarded from a coalition government after free and proper elections. Recently the Pol Pot clique unashamedly announced that if Khieu Samphan, the figurehead leader of the Pol-potists, is not appointed head of state, prime minister, or foreign minister, it will not give up fighting. In early September, Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans disclosed that the Pol Pot clique has arms caches which could allow it to fight for a few years.

For this reason, the danger of the return to power of the Pol Pot clique now and in the future remains everyone's concern. U.S. Senator John Kerry said on 3 May that both the U.S. Government and himself, as a representative of the American people, will absolutely not allow the Pol Pot regime to return.

In a statement addressed to the U.S. President on 22 June 1991, Senator Edward Kennedy pointed out that if the United States wants to ensure that the Pol-potists will not return to power and if the United States is sincerely concerned about civil war victims, the United States ought to say clearly that its policy will not destroy those people the United States is striving to protect. The United States should strive to find rights and freedom for the Cambodian people.

All this shows that not only the Cambodian people—who are victims of the Pol Pot clique—but the international community, too, cannot forget the Pol Pot clique's crimes. It is for this reason that the State of Cambodia demands the inclusion of a reference to the 1948 convention into the draft peace agreement because this refers to the future in which the catastrophe of the past should not again occur; this is not aimed at any party in particular. If this convention is forgotten, what the fascist Hitler group did in the Second World War is also forgotten. This also means the elevation of the prestige of a number of fascist ringleaders who had already been sentenced by the Nuremburg Court.

The Cambodian people are determined to prevent the recurrence of the catastrophe of the past.

Spread of Malaria in Kompong Cham Province Noted

BK0909061391 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0409 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 9—Forty-seven people died of malaria in a district of Kompong Cham Province, some 150 km northeast of Phnom Penh, in the first seven months of this year.

In Memot, a district rich in forest and rubber plantations, 114 people suffered from malaria during the first three months. However, the number of malaria sufferers increased during the rainy season beginning in April, according to an official working with the district health-care service.

Before 1970, up to 70 people died from such disease each year, especially those who worked in the rubber plantations in the district, the official said.

The most serious incidence of malaria was recorded in July and August of the 1979-86 period during which three people died every day.

Hundreds of Cambodians die from malaria every year, especially those who live in the north, northeast, northwest, southwest and western parts of the country which are covered with thick forest.

Reportage on Flood Situation, Relief Efforts

Phnom Penh City 'Threatened'

BK0709074291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0437 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 7—The city of Phnom Penh is being threatened by flood as the rivers are swelling more quickly than the past few years, said the municipal poeople's committee.

Parts of the city including several streets could be inundated soon, the committee warned.

An official said the committee on Sept. 2 called on all ministries and public offices in the city to take part in building a dike along the river bank in an effort to prevent possible inundation in the city.

The dike is 18.4 km long stretching from the "Kbal Thnal Bridge" in the southern suburb to "Kab Srov Dam" in the northern suburb.

The ministries and public offices have sent their employees to work on the construction site, and several teams have been assigned to keep watch of the rising tide of the river.

Bou Thang Visits Stung Treng

BK0709135091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Comrade General Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers, accompanied by Comrade Nguon Nhel, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and agriculture minister, and many other leading cadres from various institutions, recently went to Stung Treng Province to distribute Red Cross aid to people affected by floods and recent typhoons. The aid consists of 100 tonnes of rice, a case of medicine, a case of soap, and some mosquito nets, blankets, and clothing.

Further on Deaths, Damage

BK0709125491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1229 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Bangkok, Sept 7 (AFP)—Heavy tropical storms and the swollen waters of the mighty Mekong River have resulted in the worst flooding to hit Southeast Asia in decades, bringing widespread damage and loss of life.

Workers in the Cambodian capital, Phnom Penh, marked off an 18-kilometer (11-mile) stretch of riverfront and key installations for sandbagging, after heavy rains in Laos sent a second wave of floodwaters down the Mekong.

The river, the lifeline of Southeast Asia, flows from the Tibetan plateau in China through Burma, Laos, Thailand and Cambodia and empties into the South China Sea at southern Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh city.

"We have to prepare for the worst, even if it doesn't happen," said Gayle Miller, a program officer with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), which is helping coordinate flood relief efforts in Cambodia.

Two rounds of flooding have so far claimed about 100 lives, rendered more than 300,000 people homeless and damaged 50,000 hectares (123,500 acres) of arable land in Cambodia, according to preliminary UNDP figures.

The first, caused by torrential rains, hit three provinces southwest of Phnom Penh and one district of the capital itself on August 20.

Less than a week later, the swollen Mekong wiped out homes and farms in Kratie and Kompong Cham provinces north of Phnom Penh before flooding Kandal and Prey Veng, south of the capital.

In Thailand, two bodies were found while nine others were still missing Saturday after flash floods swept through low-lying areas in the northernmost province of Chiang Rai.

So far, 5,176 familes in the town of Mae Suai have been affected by the floods, officials said, adding that more than 400 cattle and poultry had died and 44 roads, 22 bridges and 19 irrigation dams were damaged.

Total damage was estimated at 30 million baht (1.2 million dollars), they said.

Northern Thailand has been subjected to heavy rainfall since mid-August. Five people were buried alive and died under tons of mud after the retaining wall of a reservoir burst on August 31 in Chiang Mai province, southwest of Chiang Rai.

In Laos, the official news agency KPL reported heavy flooding in the southern province of Champassak, where the Mekong River marks the country's border with Thailand.

Roads had been closed following the floods and "urgent efforts" were being made to reopen them, the agency said, adding that rice crops in the affected areas were likely to be lost.

1.4 Million Hectares Planted Despite Floods

BK0509125591 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Text] Thanks to the early rainfall and good preparations in terms of land conditioning and tools, the rice producing campaign of our farmers throughout the country this season has been proceeding smoothly at a tempo much faster than that of the previous year.

By the end of August the whole country had retilled a total of 1.4 million hectares [ha] of land, or 710,000 ha more than last year; and it had sown more than 202,000 ha, or over 117,000 ha more than last year, and had broadcast or transplanted all types of rice on nearly 1 million ha, or about 613,000 ha more than last year.

However, in mid-August our farmers in the Provinces of Takeo, Kompong Speu, Kampot, and Kandal and a number of Phnom Penh's suburban districts experienced the worst disaster ever from flood waters. More than 147,000 ha of their crop lands were inundated and of this, 100,000 ha were damaged beyond repair.

40 Percent of Rice Target Met

BK0809054391 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0417 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK September 8—Farmers throughout the country had achieved 40 percent of this rainy season's cultivation target of 1.94 million hectares of rice by early this month, reported the Ministry of Agriculture.

The rice planted area was 772,760 ha or 433,870 ha more than the same period last year from April to August.

The northeastern province of Stung Treng made the best achievement compared with other provinces in the country with the planted area reaching 77 percent of the earmarked area of 11,500 ha.

The farmers also grew 94,000 ha of cash crops, the report said.

Meanwhile, they gathered 129,600 ha of rice grown in the last dry season with a total output of 334,300 tons. They also harvested 18,300 ha of maize which were planted in the early rainy season.

The ministry said the farmers were able to boost the cultivation thanks to ample rainfall since the early season.

However, heavy rains on August 19-21 submerged tens of thousands of hectares of rice in the provinces of Kompong Speu, Kandal and Takeo.

Rice would be re-grown on the flood-stricken area when the water recedes, the ministry said.

Chea Soth Closes National Education Conference

BK0209133091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 Sep 91

[Summary] "On the morning of 31 August, the 12th national education conference held at the Cambodian-Soviet Friendship Institute of Technology, successfully concluded after five days of work. The conference closing was chaired by Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of Ministers."

The meeting reviewed and discussed educational work in 1990-91 and set targets for the coming years, which includes efforts to raise the level of general education, improvement of kindergartens, and promotion of literacy. Awards were also presented to outstanding units from various localities.

In his speech, Chea Soth praised the educational achievements of the past year and called on everyone to strive to achieve the educational targets set for the coming years.

Hun Sen Closes 'Education for All' Conference

BK0709111391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Speech by Council of Ministers Chairman Hun Sen at closing of the National Conference on Education for All on 6 September—recorded]

[Text] My respects to the clergy, the presidium, national and international guests of honor, and the entire audience. On behalf of the party and government of the State of Cambodia and in my own name, I wish to declare that I am very happy to join this ceremony to close the Cambodian nation's first historic National Conference on Education for All. I consider this an important national event and a success of the cooperation between the national and international forces led by the Ministry of Education.

It is true that I was not able to closely participate in the conference, but I attentively followed its progress all the same. I am very pleased to praise with all sincerity the Ministry of Education for its efforts to organize the conference and all the [words indistinct] and monks from every province and municipality for their magnificent contribution to making the conference a success. Along with this, I wish to profoundly thank ladies and gentlemen, representatives of international organizations, who are present here for having painstakingly assisted in motivating this conference.

Dear audience: Every Cambodian still remembers that immediately after the 7 January 1979 victory, facing the

(?shockingly tragic event) and with empty hands, the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and the State of Cambodia Government, then called the Cambodian People's Revolutionary Council, presented a correct and clear education policy gathering and sending all the children of school ages to schools. They attempted to combat illiteracy and provide education to the people all over the country. We strived to fight off starvation and improve the people's living conditions and health in keeping with the slogans: Going to school and teaching are patriotic tasks; literate people should teach illiterate people; well educated people should teach people with little education; illiteracy is the enemy of the national society. According to the education policy, theory should be closely linked with practice, school associated with society, and education connected to labor and production. Thanks to the endeavor and struggle of [words indistinct] personalities who are the teachers throughout the country; the contribution from the state authorities, mass organizations, people, students' parents, and Buddhist monks; and the timely and effective assistance from friendly countries and a number of international humanitarian organizations, an adequate education has been restored and reestablished even though the country has been simultaneously faced with peace and war over the past 12 years. Importantly, primary education and the campaign against illiteracy are great contributions to rehabilitating our Cambodian nation in all fields. By all accounts, we should acknowledge that those great achievements are still not complete and shortcomings still come up. However, the progress already attained has created a basic precedent for promoting development in the educational field in the years to come in keeping with the speedy growth in the world and the Asia-Pacific region.

Dear audience, the 13th session of the fifth party Central Committee recently defined a number of major objectives related to the future development of education and its significance, as follows:

—On the quality of current education, it is necessary to urgently streamline the program on general education at all levels, including vocational education, and upgrade the quality and method of teaching and improve the basic material conditions to serve [words indistinct]. For the time being, institutes of technology should be enhaced to serve production and living conditions in each locality. This is to create a sufficient number of skilled workers to serve small-size factories and assist the administering cadres. To alleviate the state's heavy burden, private schools under state control should be allowed to set up with assistance from international organizations. At present, with the rapid progress toward a political settlement, all services concerned should expeditiously map out plans to develop the nation and country in all fields and formulate a joint project on [words indistinct] in preparation for receiving technical assistance in national reconstruction. Now, it is correct that the conference has agreed that primary and adult education is [words indistinct] basic education that the entire nation should promote. Education plays a key role in the socioeconomic development of our country and especially at village and communnal levels in terms of the two major tasks of gathering and sending pupils to schools and improving teaching quality, which are the [word indistinct] of the party and government.

In view of the objective defined by the International Conference on Education for All held in [word indistinct] from 5 to 9 March 1990 and good experiences received from some countries in the region and in considering the actual situation in Cambodia, the conference highly values the success that we have strived to achieve during the past past 12 years, examines the remaining shortcomings and their causes, sets targets [words indistinct], and establishes practical measures for successful implementation.

Dear audience, education for all remains a complicated issue for developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region and especially for our Cambodia which is poor and needs strenuous efforts and tremenduous responsibility and patience to consider with urgency the following three basic issues: gathering and sending students to schools, streamlining the educational system, and improving educational management. Those three important issues are closely interrelated [words indistinct]:

1. Gathering and sending students to schools: Constructing and strengthening material bases are an important strategy. Schools with a poor appearance cannot attract students. But expanding schools should be absolutely linked with a well-defined education system. It is necessary to pay attention to democratizing primary, general, and adult education with the use of different, flexible measures in accordance with each specific locality and region. A propaganda campaign to educate and motivate the masses and people and the entire society to assist in sending pupils to school is another important task that cannot be ignored. Information networks should be strengthened and expanded into remote areas and regions of ethnic minority groups, cooperation with social forces inside and outside the country should be promoted, and efforts should continue to expand schools and boarding schools and create favorable conditions to assist in building material bases and provide accommodation and foods to encourage good learning for students and teachers there. Primary, general, and adult education systems having the same important role and assignment in assisting one another should be specifically determined.

2. More importantly, education should be closely linked with the people's interest and daily living. This is an attractive factor because if the people want to learn they can learn effectively. To improve quantity, we should consider improving quality as well. And gathering and sending pupils to school should be linked with [words indistinct] educational program and project, school books, and equipment, as well as teacher quality and teaching skills. All pupils should complete primary schooling and should have true qualities and the capability to contribute

to earning a living and continuing further education. The curriculum should be modified according to the situation, and this requires our educational staff and teachers to be fully competent and capable; otherwise ,the curriculum will remain totally on paper. From now on, attention should be paid to further increasing basic knowledge and newly developed teaching methods in all fields to carry out the immense task effectively. In sum, attention should also be paid to further upgrading the teaching profession. In the changed curriculum, human research, social psychology, tradition [words indistinct], and national culture are necessary factors because educational reform should be closely associated with the complexity and reality of social life.

3. Another important factor to attain the objective is the quality of management. It is true that to achieve good results in any task, timely follow-up, assessment, and improvement are necessary. Therefore, the quality of education management is an important factor. To achieve this, we should see that the interaction between planning and administration is an important issue that should be effectively improved. In the modification of curriculum and interaction between the planning and administration, [?right to manage] should reflect the democratic character at all levels from the center to localities, units, and schools. It should also be aware that the degree and size of [words indistinct] can be modified according to the geographical, social, and economic situation of each region. However the abolishment of the right to manage does not mean that the right is totally transferred to the localities. That being the case, we should continue the study and research the management process, making sure that it conforms to the actual situation in our country. These are my recommendations, in addition to the results achieved by the conference today.

Dear audience, before concluding, on behalf of the State of Cambodia Government, I would like to appeal to our compatriots inside the country and overseas, state authorities, mass organizations, people, students' parents, wise men, monastery elders, and Buddhist monks to continue contributing their cash, materials, [word indistinct] and physical and moral strength to promoting education, especially education for all, which is a [word indistinct] social issue. This is aimed at reaching our goal and bringing various measures introduced by this national conference to success before the end of the 20th century. Along with this, I also call on all the friendly countries and progressive forces worldwide as well as various humanitarian organizations to generously provide technical and financial assistance to the Cambodian people, enabling them to develop the basic education as the other developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region and the world in this century. Again, I would like to thank and wish the audience the best of health and every success. Thank you.

Hor Namhong Greets New Soviet Foreign Minister

BK0609113591 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0413 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 6 Sep (SPK)—Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, addressed his *"sincere congratulations" to Boris Pankin on his* appointment as foreign minister of the Soviet Union.

"I am convinced, said the message, that the relations of friendship and close cooperation between our two states will continue to develop for the mutual interests of our two peoples and for the cause of consolidating peace in the world." [quotation marks as received]

Commentaries View Political Situation, Resolution

SNC 'Sole Source of Power'

BK0909023591 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Station commentary: "The Supreme National Council Is the Sole Source of Power in Cambodia; There Is No Other State Authority"]

[Text] On the morning of 30 August 1991, the Supreme National Council [SNC], which met for the second time in Phatthaya, Thailand, solemnly met with the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] and Indonesia, the cochairman of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC].

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, SNC chairman, termed this meeting historic, while His Excellency Khieu Samphan, chairman of the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, in an interview with the Democratic Kampuchea radio, stressed that through this historic meeting, the UNSC five permanent members and Indonesia, the PICC cochairman, have solemnly and officially recognized the SNC chaired by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as the sole source of power in Cambodia; there is no other state authority. This also solemnly legitimizes the SNC resolutions, which no parties can alter. SNC resolutions will have to be implemented. Further progress should be made.

The entire Cambodian people in and outside the country also consider the SNC as the sole source of power in Cambodia and the country's legitimate representative inside the country and in the international arena. They will not accept any other state authorities. They realize that the SNC is the symbol of our entire nation's reconciliation without any discrimination regarding a person's color, political tendency, or past. Everyone unite as one Cambodian nation around the SNC chaired by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk to move toward a settlement to end Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia politically and comprehensively in accordance with the documents of the UNSC five permanent members.

So far, through the vigorous efforts of the SNC and the international community, particularly the UNSC five permanent members and the PICC cochairmen, the settlement of the Cambodian problem has made great progress and is moving toward the final phase. An agreement has been reached on a number of major issues. For example the SNC has Samdech Norodom Sihanouk as chairman, the SNC is fully functioning, and

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk has the final say if the SNC cannot reach a consensus on an issue.

This is the consolidation of the SNC, which is the sole source of power in Cambodia. There is a cease-fire, cessation of outside military aid, and control by the military and civilian components of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia concerning the implementation of all decisions. There is a comprehensive control in Cambodia, meaning the control to ensure that all hidden Vietnamese aggressor forces in Cambodia are genuinely withdrawn and no longer hiding in Cambodia. There is also the reduction of 70 percent of troops and weapons of each party with the remaining troops and weapons put in cantonments under UN control.

Thus, the Cambodian people hope that the SNC, the sole source of power in Cambodia, will further strive to solve the remaining issues, and, in particular, call on the SNC, the PICC cochairmen, and the United Nations to prepare for the quick dispatch of at least 200 men to Cambodia this September, and more men to be sent until reaching the set number to gradually control the implementation of all decisions.

The Cambodian people will continue to hold aloft the SNC banner to push for a political and comprehensive solution to the Cambodian problem in accordance with the UNSC five permanent members' documents to quickly end Vietnam's war of aggression of the past nearly 13 years so that the Cambodian people can eliminate all kinds of suffering and hardship; Cambodia can recover independence, peace, and stability with territorial integrity; and the entire Southeast Asia and Asia-Pacific region can have long-lasting peace, security, and stability.

Phnom Penh Urged To Renounce Power

BK0909064091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Khuon Khemarin's political commentary: "For the Sake of An Independent Cambodia"]

[Text] National independence is an indispensable basis to ensure the survival of a race. Where there is a nation, there should be independence. A nation which does not enjoy independence would not be able to survive. Therefore, independence is as valuable as that nation's survival.

It is for this cause of defending national survival that all Cambodians have struggled resolutely, willingly sacrificing even their valuable lives, in order to pave the way for national independence. Thanks to our struggle, Vietnam has been compelled to (?announce its troop withdrawal). At present, Vietnam and the regime that it has installed have agreed to accept the peace plan worked out by the big countries which are permanent members of the UN Security Council.

We would like to stress that the fact that Vietnam and the Vietnamese-installed regime have accepted the peace plan of the "Big Five" is a fundamental victory in our struggle for national independence. This is because this plan constitutes a foundation for Cambodia's independence. The implementation of this plan will enable Cambodia to enjoy full independence—the cause of all Cambodians' struggle. Therefore, due to our struggle, this biggest obstacle has already been settled. The only question left for all Cambodians is whether or not Mr. Hun Sen's group, which represents the Vietnamese-installed regime, will agree to hand over to the United Nations all of the essential power for ensuring a neutral political atmosphere prior to the election.

The "Big Five" which drafted the peace plan realize that to enable Cambodia to enjoy peace within the framework of a genuine independence, it is imperative to allow the Cambodian people to decide their own destiny through a free and fair election; that is, it should not be under the influence of any state power. To reach this correct and just goal, it is necessary for a neutral atmosphere to prevail in Cambodia.

The Cambodian resistance movement and the world community demand that Mr. Hun Sen's group relinquish the state power of the Vietnamese-installed communist regime so as to open way for a fair election to be held in Cambodia. This is because this fair election will bring about a genuinely independent Cambodia that all Cambodians want.

Indonesia

Government Sets General Election for 9 Jun 1992

BK0709080491 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0753 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Jakarta, Sep 7 (OANA-ANTARA)—Home Affairs Minister Rudini announced here Friday that Indonesia's sixth general elections since its independence in 1945 would take place on June 9, 1992.

A presidential decree on the date was signed by President Suharto last July [as received] 2, he said.

Flanked by Home Affairs Ministry's director general for sociopolitical affairs, Hari Sugiman, Rudini said the date was decided after taking some suggestions into consideration.

The minister in his capacity as the chairman of the General Elections Council (LPU) on the same day also met chairmen of the three contestants in the 1992 general elections (Pemilu), PPP (the Muslim United Development Party), the ruling Functional Group (Golkar), and the nationalist Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI).

During the meeting it was agreed that the deadline for submitting the list of candidates for members of the next parliament which previously was set on September 9 would be postponed to September 16.

President May Include Party Members in Cabinet

BK2808112391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0958 GMT 28 Aug 91

[Text] Jakarta, Aug 28 (OANA-ANTARA)—Political party members may be included in the next cabinet, but it is all up to the president whether or not to select assistants belonging to the country's two political parties, Deputy Secretary General of the ruling Functional Group (Golkar) Freddy Latumahina said here Tuesday.

Golkar will not interfere in the prerogative rights of the president and it believes the president will be able to choose assistants with whom he can cooperate closely, he said.

He made the comments in response to the idea of the Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI)'s Socio-Political Department head Lieutenant General Harsudiono Hartas of including political party members in the country's next cabinet.

Indonesia now recognizes two political parties only, the Muslim United Development Party (PPP) and the Nationalist Indonesian Democratic Party (PDI), aside from Golkar, as contestants in its every five years general elections (Pemilu). However, political party members in the history of the New Order Government actually have been given a seat in the cabinet as well.

H. Mintareja from the PPP and Sunawar Sukowati from the PDI was respectively social affairs minister and public welfare minister in the second pembangunan [development] cabinet under President Suharto.

According to Latumahina, the 1945 Constitution stated that the country's ministers are the president's assistants whom he personally appointed [words indistinct] on believes that it has enough cadres to fill in all the seats in the coming cabinet. He denied allegation that the government so far had always preferred certain sociopolitical organization.

The fact that Golkar has become a single majority power is not the result of any political engineering, he said adding that instead, it was a reflection of the people's aspirations. By having a single majority power, the country has managed to reach political stability, Latumahina said.

He reminded as well that all socio-political forces in Indonesia, big or small, shared the common responsibility of developing a democratic life beneficial to all people.

Suharto on Clove Farmers, Trade Ties With PRC

BK2808094391 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0819 GMT 28 Aug 91

[Text] Jakarta, Aug. 28 (OANA-ANTARA)—President Suharto has called on village unit cooperatives (KUDs) to provide advance payment to clove farmers facing fund shortages to prevent them from selling their clove hastily, which could result in a fall in clove prices.

The president made the call when receiving Minister of Trade Arifin Siregar and Junior Minister of Trade Sudrajad Jiwandono at the Bina Graha office here Tuesday.

They met the president to report their recent visit to North Sulawesi and East Java to observe the implementation of the clove trade control in those provinces.

The trade minister recently issued three decrees for the rearrangement of the clove trade. The three decrees stipulate that clove growers can sell their clove only to local KUDs which then sell the product to the clove marketing and buffer body (BPPC).

Clove cigarette producers, the biggest clove consumers in Indonesia, are allowed to buy clove only from BPPC.

The new regulations, the trade minister noted, had created problems as some farmers had to sell their clove which was still tender green because they were badly in need of money. The president, therefore, advised KUDs to pay the clove farmers in advance.

Arifin Siregar said KUDs could give advance payment to clove farmers provided Bank Rakyat Indonesia (BRI), a state bank, facilitated the supply of credit to the cooperatives.

The minister further said there were indications that several clove farmers sold their clove to brokers, who then sold the clove to KUDs.

Arifin Siregar also reported to the head of government his planned visit to China as the head of a delegation consisting of government officials and 65 businessmen in the near future. The purpose of the visit was to promote economic and trade relations between Indonesia and China, the minister explained.

He reiterated that Indonesia did not want China to implement a dumping policy in bilateral trade. The Indonesian Government has taken measures to uncover any dumping in trade with China.

According to data at the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), Indonesia's exports to China were worth 834 million U.S. dollars last year, while its imports from the neighbouring state were valued at 652 million U.S. dollars, a surplus of 182 million U.S. dollars for Indonesia.

Indonesia has enjoyed surpluses in bilateral trade with China over the past several years. The value of the bilateral trade between the two nations has also been growing, especially after the resumption of diplomatic ties on August 8, 1990.

More on Trade Mission to PRC

BK0709074691 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0455 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Jakarta, Sep 7 (OANA-ANTARA)—Advisory Council chairman of Kadin [Chamber of Commerce and Industry] Indonesia Sukamdani Gitosarjono expressed the hope that the Indonesian trade mission, which was scheduled to leave for the People's Republic of China (PRC) on Saturday, would be able to enhance the trade volume between the two countries.

This mission was further expected to be able to conclude bigger transactions than the first one which he led in 1985, Sukamdani said at a dinner party held in honour of the Indonesian mission here on Friday.

The Indonesian trade mission to the PRC six years ago was able to conclude transactions worth 350 million U.S. dollars.

Trade between the two countries reached a value of 1.18 billion U.S. dollars in 1990 and in the first six months (January through June) of 1991 the value had already reached 800 million U.S. dollars.

The current Indonesian trade mission to the PRC led by Trade Minister Arifin Siregar consisted of 73 entrepreneurs representing 42 companies and four banks.

Sukamdani Gitosarjono, who was formerly general chairman of Kadin Indonesia (Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry) called on banking circles, government as well as private, to immediately open branch offices in trade centers in the PRC such as Beijing, Shanghai, Canton [Guangzhou], and other big cities.

He also called on the Bank of China to open a branch office in Indonesia and [words indistinct] to China which were payable after six months.

Indonesia needed products from China such as cotton, soy beans, and machinery and China on the other hand products from Indonesia, but in their dealings they had still to face the problem of foreign exchange, Sukamdani said.

But this problem could in fact be overcome easily through counter-purchase transactions, he added.

PRC Ambassador to Indonesia Qian Yongnian in his address said that trade relations between both countries were complementary.

The PRC needed products and raw materials from Indonesia such as plywood, timber products, coffee, and spices. He believed that trade relations between both countries would continue to increase in the years to come because of their complementary character.

Foreign Visits, MP Candidate Screening Viewed

BK0509145891 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1217 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 5 (ANTARA)—President Suharto stressed here on Thursday that the government had no bad intention in screening (Litsus) candidates for members of parliament, saying that if there were shortages in its implementation, it still could be improved.

"The government has no certain intention in the screening; it has been carried out based on the rules but its implementation still could be further improved if there were shortages," House Speaker Kharis Suhud quoted the president as saying.

The head of state recieved the house speaker on Thursday for a consultation meeting.

He told reporters that the screening of candidates for the 1992 parliamentary elections in Jakarta had been carried out at the military command complex.

The place where the Litsus was held could be reconsidered, Suhud added when replying to a question on what was meant by "could be improved."

Meanwhile, Deputy House Speaker R. Sukardi pointed to Surjadi, saying "he is a democrat but he had no problem with the screening."

During the consultation meeting, Suhud and the head of state discussed the election of Indonesia as host for the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) summit next year.

Indonesia was elected to host the summit during the foreign ministerial session of NAM in Accra, Ghana on Wednesday night.

President Suharto, Suhud said, hailed the election which automatically enabled the country to chair the movement.

Indonesia should prepare itself as well as possible, the president said. Indonesia deserves to chair the movement because Indonesia is one of its founders.

Kharis Suhud said that because NAM did not face heavy problems in the political field, it could concentrate on increasing economic cooperation among developing countries which was known as the South-South cooperation.

The House speaker and the president also discussed 13 bills on finance, communications, housing, resettlement and immigration, which were still under debate in the legislative body.

"The president said that the government did not want to press the legislative body to finish the discussion of the bills," Sukardi said.

The president and the House speaker also discussed the planned visit by a Portuguese parliamentary delegation in Indonesia in the near future.

Suhud said the Portuguese parliamentary delegation, which would come at the invitation of the House speaker, was composed of 13 members.

Besides, a 13-member government official delegation of Portugal is also expected to arrive along with the parliamentary delegation. It would be accompanied by ten journalists.

United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar would also send six envoys and 12 journalists.

The schedule of the Portuguese parliamentary delegation's visit has not yet been fixed but an advance team is expected to arrive soon to make preparations for the visit.

Kharis Suhud said that through the visit Portugal was expected to witness the determination of the Indonesian people to develop the former Portuguese colony which integrated into Indonesia in 1976.

On the occasion, the president also discussed a planned visit by parliamentary delegations from Jordan and Italy.

The planned visit by the Soviet parliamentary delegation was cancelled due to political conflict in that country.

Demonstration Ban Imposed

BK0709075491 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 30 Aug 91 p 11

[Text] Dili, East Timor (JP)—Governor Mario Viegas Carrascalao has slapped a ban on demonstrations during a visit by Portuguese parlementarians later this year.

"Demonstrators will face the Indonesian armed forces (ABRI)," he told about 5,000 government employees here on Tuesday, talking about the planned visit by the Portuguese MPs and United Nations representatives.

"Please tell your relatives at home not to hold rallies and tell ABRI about anyone planning demonstrations in the wake of the visit," Carascalao said.

President Suharto last week approved the planned visit by the Portuguese and UN envoys, who Jakarta says will only "observe" rather than investigate.

Governor Carrascalao has reportedly voiced his personal objection to the visit but said he would not oppose it if Jakarta endorses it.

He told the meeting on Tuesday that he had received requests from some groups he did not name to be allowed to organize counter-demonstrations if other groups held pro-Portuguese rallies.

According to the governor, the Portuguese press continues its anti-Indonesia propaganda. He said a Lisbon journalist interviewing him charged that while it was true Indonesia had built more paved roads in East Timor, it used them "to transport the corpses of the Timorese people it killed."

He told the employees to stop worrying about Portuguese MPs exploiting the planned visit to step up their anti-integration propaganda in international forums.

"UN envoys are independent and they will tell the world about the facts as they see them here," Carrascalo said. "The Portuguese won't be ablt to dictate what East Timorese should do."

The visit is meant to erase the East Timor issue from the UN agenda and to assure Portugal that people here want East Timor to be part of Indonesia, he said.

Alatas at NAM Session; Urges Economic Ties

BK0409114791 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1035 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] Accra, Sept 4 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia Wednesday called on the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) to redefine a realistic order of priorities in the present drastically changing setting by putting back issues of development and equitable international economic cooperation back onto its top priority agenda.

While there has been a welcome amelioration in East-West relations, the North-South polarization now looms as the central, unresolved issues of our time, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said on behalf of the Asian group at the inaugural session of the tenth NAM ministerial conference here.

Led by Ghanaian President Jerry John Rawlings the inaugural session was also dedicated to commemorate the 30th anniversary of NAM, founded by Sukarno (Indonesia), Nehru (India), Tito (Yugoslavia), Nasser (Egypt) and Nkrumah (Ghana) during the first NAM summit in Belgrade, September 1-6, 1961.

Alatas reminded that it is especially in the economic sphere where severe disparities and unacceptable inequalities persist in the relations between developed and developing countries.

Indonesia reaffirmed that the political struggle also has to be continued.

As long as the world remains as insecure and turbulent as it still is today, Alatas said, efforts to bring about just and durable peace, common securty, disarmament, and peaceful conflict resolution must continue to be a foremost task.

The eradication of the last vestiges of colonialism, institutionalized racism and apartheid must remain a major focus of NAM's struggle.

The resolution of conflicts in various regions of the world should remain a NAM struggle, foremost among them being the Arab-Israeli conflict with the just struggle of the Palestinian people for self-determination and independence at its core.

Furthermore, Alatas went on, we cannot afford to be passive on such new global concerns as the protection of the environment and the promotion of human rights.

In these endeavors, the strengthening of the UN, as the embodiment of multilateralism and the indispensable framework for a new world order, must remain NAM's principal concern.

Speaking on the African soil, Alatas praised Africa's role as a major factor in making NAM a powerful global force as it is today.

With its firm anti-colonialist and anti-racist convictions, born out of centuries of colonial oppression and exploitation, Africa has brought into sharp focus the imperative of a new international order based on true independence, justice and equality, he said.

Comprising the largest member of developing countries, he said, Africa provided acute relevance to the demand for greater equity and a balanced international economic relations.

The defence of Africa's political and economic independence and the eradication of apartheid and other forms of racism constitute not a mere regional or continental concern, but an integral part of NAM's overall goals and priorities, he concluded.

Team To Manage Foreign Loans, Payments Balance

BK0409114991 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1043 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] Jakarta, Sept 4 (OANA-ANTARA)—The Indonesian Government announced on Wednesday that, in its bid to reduce the country's debt burden, it had set up a team to coordinate the use of foreign commercial loans and to control the country's balance of payments.

Coordinating Minister for Economic, Industrial, and Financial Affairs Radius Prawiro told reporters after attending the monthly Cabinet meeting chaired by President Suharto that the team was assigned to coordinate all offshore loans outside those from the Inter-Governmental Group on Indonesia (IGGI) and other official borrowings by state-owned and private companies.

The team, comprising 10 ministers and a high-ranking official with a ministerial rank, was to set the priorities of development projects which could be funded by the commercial loans.

It's time for the government to coordinate the use of foreign funds since uncontrolled foreign borrowings could affect the country's balance of payments, Radius said.

Radius, however, did not say how much the offshore commercial loans had Indonesia received so far.

According to data from the World Bank, Indonesia's foreign debts in 1990 stood at 50 billion U.S. dollars, excluding the 10 billion-dollar borrowing by private companies. Radius also said that the government would maintain its policy on free foreign exchange earnings traffic which it had adopted since 1982. According to the regulation, the government would not restrict the flow of foreign exchanges into or out of Indonesia.

Meanwhile, Information Minister Harmoko, who also attended the Cabinet meeting, said that inflation rate in August reached 1.90 per cent compared with 1.89 per cent in July, or 7.39 per cent in the whole calendar of 1990.

Exports in June reached 2.45 billion U.S. dollars against imports of 2.28 billion, leaving a surplus of 170 million dollars, Harmoko said.

Laos

Leaders Attend LFNC CC Extraordinary Session

BK0609120391 Vientiane KPL in English 0912 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, September 6 (KPL)—The Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee [LFNC CC] on Sept. 5 held here its extraordinary session under the chairmanship of its president, Phoumi Vongvichit, and with the participation of the LFNC's representatives from all provinces throughout the country.

Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the National Assembly, also attended the inaugural session.

Phoumi Vongvichit, in his opening address, made an assessment on the front's activities in its four main tasks which have been carried out rather satisfactorily in various localities. The tasks involve mobilising the people of all social strata and nationalities to take part in the national development and defence through familiarising them with the party and state policy of renovation.

The three-day session will hear a report on the front's activities between 1987-91 and on its tasks for 1991-92.

Nouhak Phoumsavan Stresses Constitution, Laws

BK0109100891 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 31 Aug 91

[Text] This morning in Vientiane Capital, Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], met and talked with a number of law enforcement cadres such as personnel from the people's courts, the public prosecution institutes, and military and police authorities attached to the center and the Vientiane Municipality.

Also attending the talk were members of the SPC Standing Committee, the justice minister and deputy minister, and more than 100 cadres.

During the talk, the SPA chairman pointed to the role and significance of the Constitution promulgation and other laws. He said this development represented a change in the style of managing the state and society in its reliance on the Constitution and laws instead of the line, policies, resolutions, and instructions. Nouhak Phoumsavan also raised some fundamental constitutional and legal aspects which have become the foundation for the activities of society and state management. The SPA chairman noted the need to redirect the activities of all law enforcement bodies towards a reliance on the Constitution and laws. He also stressed honesty, loyalty to the country and people and working for the common interests of the entire society as qualities of law enforcement personnel.

On the same day, the SPA chairman also gave a similar lecture to more than 450 leading and technical cadres and members of mass organizations in Vientiane Municipality.

Judiciary Personnel Meeting Ends

BK0509114391 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] The three-day meeting of law enforcement personnel at the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] ended with unanimous views on the evening of 3 September. The more than 100 participants at the meeting from the Justice Ministry, the people's courts, the public prosecution institutes, and military and police authorities attached to the center and Vientiane Municipality concentrated great efforts on studying and reaching unanimity on various important issues, such as the promulgation of the Constitution and other laws.

On this subject, the delegates to the meeting held that the promulgation of these legal procedures constitutes a new turning point in our management of state and society, which must be henceforth conducted through the enforcement of laws.

Understanding the significance of this event, the participants conducted a series of democratic discussions to debate on and to point out certain past shortcomings in the activities of our judiciary organizations and law enforcement authorities. These activities must from now on be strictly conducted under the jurisdiction of the Constitution and other laws. At the same time, the entire party and masses must be educated to fully appreciate the contents of the Constitution and other laws so as to gradually bring about strict discipline in the management of our state and society.

At the meeting, SPA Chairman Nouhak Phoumsavan met and chatted with the delegates. He was of the opinion that the success of the meeting would become an initial step in the implementation of the Constitution and other laws. The SPA chairman called on professional law enforcement authorities to brush up their attitudes and positions as well as revolutionary principles in carrying out their duties in safeguarding and enforcing the Constitution and other laws so as to ensure justice in conducting all legal procedures.

Saman Vi-gnaket Visits Cadre Training School

BK0609110891 Vientiane KPL in English 0922 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 4 (KPL)—Education Minister Saman Vi-gnaket and his party on September 1 visited the Cadre Training School of Vientiane Province where he discussed issues pertaining to educational development with the administration, teachers and the general public. The new school year has just started.

At the meeting, Governor of the province Mr. Siphon Phalikhan spoke of the educational performance and the contribution by the local people toward its development in the province. He said the contribution accounted for 38 million kip. However, he pointed to some setbacks in the field as a result of the delayed payment of salaries for teachers.

Hearing the report, the education minister congratulated the local community for its effort to promote education in terms of material, labour, and donations for the school building construction.

Official Notes Effects of Delay in Teachers' Pay

BK0509053291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1400 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] In connection with the opening of the new school year, Siphon Phalikhan, chairman on the Administrative Committee of Vientiane Province, said that in the past year more than 38 million kip have been earmarked by various departments and services for upgrading and building the education network and that cooperation in the education field between the state and private sectors as well as among the mass organizations and other economic sectors was fairly good. However, he noted that problems relating to the implementation of the state policy toward school teachers must be urgently resolved. This is because these components in our education system have encountered numerous severe difficulties in their living conditions because the payment of their salaries are somewhat delayed, thus causing them to lack interest in improving education quality.

Reportage on Effects of Drought, Flooding

Rice Shortage Predicted

BK0509052391 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Text] According to a report prepared by the Secretariat of the Committee for Combating Natural Calamities, due to the completion of the cycle in calculating Lao lunar months this year in which there are two eighth lunar months, drought prevailed in many localities between May and mid-July. Moreover, on 15 August, a severe tropical storm also hit our country, causing heavy flooding in the northern region. As a result, the water level in the Mekong River has dramatically risen, overflowing the river banks and causing severe floods in many provinces in the northern region, the Vientiane plain, and many central and southern provinces from Bolikhamsai down to Champassak Provinces.

The above-mentioned severe drought followed by the widespread damage caused by crop pests and the heavy flooding have consequently caused severe adverse effects on our agricultural production this year.

According to the statistics collected from an initial survey, the total acreage of combined arable land for lowland and uphill rice cultivation this year is approximately 538,560 hectares. Of these, more than 400,000 hectares are suitable for main season rice planting. However, an estimated 40,000 hectares of these ricefields are unfit for the main season rice cultivation this year because of the prolonged drought. As for those ricefields on which main season rice plants have also been cultivated, more than 35,000 hectares have been damaged by the prolonged drought, crop pests, and floods. It is predicted that at the end of this production season only some 300,000 hectares can be harvested. If the average yield of rice production is estimated at 2.4 metric tons per hectare, the total harvest of the main season rice this year will be approximately 700,000 metric tons of paddy.

As for the total acreage of some 200,000 hectares of ricefields for upland rice planting, more than 6,000 hectares have been damaged by the said natural calamities. It is estimated that only 220,000 hectares can be harvested. If the average output of uphill rice cultivation is about 1.3 metric tons per hectare, the total uphill rice harvest will be 290,000 metric tons of paddy.

So far, more than 60,000 farming families have been severely affected by the natural calamities this year. If the initial statistics of the survey are accurate, the total rice production this year will be 1.2 million metric tons of paddy. Taking into consideration the fact that our total population at present is 4,290,000, it is predicted that our country will be short more than 300,000 metric tons of paddy—an equivalwent of more than 200,000 metric tons of polished rice—for domestic consumption.

In addition to causing severe damage to our agrilcutrual production, these natural calamities have also caused adverse effects on raising livestock. For example, a series of pest epidemics have already occurred in many localities, killing more than 4,000 head of cattle at the cost of more than 400 million kip so far.

Agriculture Ministry Plans Noted

BK0609104691 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, September 6 (KPL)—Considering considerable damages to rice crops by either flood or drought in the country this year, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has worked out detailed plans, immediate and long term, to address possible food grain shortage.

Late 1991 and early 1992, efforts are to be put on the plantation of 63,232 hectare [ha] starchy crops, 27,103 hectare industrial crops, 4,276 ha vegetables, and 14,000 - 20,000 ha second rice crop, the ministry said.

Besides, more attention will be paid to irrigation expansion, extensive livestock where potential is found.

The Agriculture Ministry is reported to have received 30 million kip fund for the combat against natural disasters this year. It also has prepared and supplied a substantial quantity of seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticide, petrol and vaccines for all the affected areas.

Fund Requirements Noted

BK0909102091 Vientiane KPL in English 0900 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 9 (KPL)—Some 845 million kip and U.S. dollars over 2.2 million are required to ameliorate the damages caused by flood and drought this year, and to restore the normal living conditions of afflicted people, estimated the anti-natural disaster secretariat under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Initially, the expenditure on crops cultivation will be U.S. dollars 2.14 million; on irrigation—817 million kip; on livestock—28 million kip; and on meteorology facilities—U.S. dollars 55,000. The secretariat further said that so far flood is still posing threat to some southern provinces and may prolong for some time. This will cause more damages and hence the budget required will be higher than the initially estimated figure.

Khammouane Diverts Funds

BK0509114191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Text] On 2 September the Administrative Committee of Khammouane Province issued a circular to all services under its supervision, instructing them to suspend all construction projects which have not yet been implemented in the later part of this year. The purpose of this suspension is to divert construction funds to help people in many localities affected by the recent flooding.

Khammouane is one of the many provinces that has been severely ravaged by floods in the past month. These floods have consequently caused considerable damage to the property and crops both of the state and the people in general.

Luang Prabang Expects Shortages

BK0709091791 Vientiane KPL in English 0854 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, Sept 7 (KPL)—Luang Prabang is estimated to require 6,000 tons of rice to get over possible rice shortage during 1991-1992 due to the failure in the rice production caused earlier by drought and pest damage. The productivity of upland rice cultivation is speculated to reach only 1.35 tons per hectare [ha].

A survey has revealed that 488 ha out of 59,800 ha of upland rice cropping areas have been damaged by rats. The districts of Viangkham, Phonsai, Pakseng, Siang Ngeun, Ngoi, Nan, and Nam Bak are reported to be badly affected.

In compensation for the damage, the provincial agriculture service has planned to promote the cultivation of starchy crops expected to yield 9,800 tons. Local people are being encouraged to plant subsidiary and cash crops wherever possible.

ADB Grants Loans for Water Projects

BK0609104491 Vientiane KPL in English 0907 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Vientiane, September 6 (KPL)—A memorandum was signed here on September 4 between the Asian Development Bank [ADB] and Laos to endorse the construction of potable water projects in four southern provinces of the country with U.S. dollar 9.5 million loan from the the bank and a U.S. dollar 2.4 million input from the Lao government.

The term of the loan repayment is 40 years at an annual interest rate of 1 percent. Of the total amount, U.S. dollar 7.4 million is for the Champassak project, U.S. dollar 1.2 million for the Attopeu project, U.S. dollar 1.2 million for the Saravane project, and U.S. dollar 1.6 million for the Sekong project. The rest will be spent on relevant works of the projects. All these projects will start early 1992 and complete in 1994.

In addition, the Asian Development Bank will provide grant aid for improving and expanding potable water system within Vientiane Prefecture, for the project of potable water survey in seven northern provinces, for training of technicians and others.

Philippines

Deliberation, Comments on Base Treaty Continue

U.S. Envoy's Statement 'Blackmail'

HK0709031991 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile said the last statement by U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner that the Philippine request for a reduction on foreign debt repayment will not be granted if the Senate rejects the Philippine-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security was blackmail. According to Enrile, Wisner's statement is blackmail aimed at forcing the Senate to ratify the new treaty. In this connection, Enrile issued a warning on the other provisions of the treaty stipulating mutual security arrangements between the Philippines and America, saying that the country could be dragged into any war which the United States may enter. The senator disclosed that there is a provision allowing the American forces to circulate around the Philippines and not be confined to Subic Naval Base alone. Enrile added that the modernization of the Armed Forces of the Philippines will not be realized because even during his time as defense minister, America had not been giving the modern weapons he had requested even after two negotiations. Enrile said America will never allow the modernization of the Philippine Air Force because it is too expensive; and, more important, the United States wants our armed forces to be dependent on them forever.

Manila Mayor Refuses Rally Permit

HK0709055391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Manila Mayor Mel Lopez refused to grant a permit for the pro-bases rally scheduled for Tuesday [10 September] reportedly because its organizers failed to submit the required documents. Lopez said the people applying for the permit failed to name the participating associations, names of officers and speakers, and the names of streets they would use. According to Lopez, the antibases group have also filed an application for a permit to hold a rally. In an interview with Radyo ng Bayan, Lopez said he is concerned with what may happen the moment the two groups meet on Tuesday.

[Begin Lopez recording] You know, not only one group applied. According to both groups, they are big—about one million for each group. Both will have actresses and actors. The problem is this: The pro's will hold their rally in Luneta and the other at Liwasang Bonifacio. So, what will happen to the people who want to join the pros but are coming from the north like Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas, and Bulacan? They have to pass through Liwasang Bonifacio, where the antis will meet. A commotion could occur and many might be hurt. I want no one hurt. [end recording] (endall) 070400 aa/reed/po ar120709.13e 07/0555z sep BT #3551 NNNN

Three Senators Join Opposition

HK0909082891 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Sep 91

[By Restie de Quiros from the Senate]

[Text] A possible rejection of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security signed between the Philippines and the United States became greater when three antibases senators supported the nonconcurrence resolution presented by eight Senate hardliners on Saturday. This came out in the debate between the senators who favor and oppose the treaty ratification after Senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani, chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, failed to submit the committee report on the result of the five-day public hearing on the issue.

Senator Enrile said he opposed the agreement because it does not give good benefits to the country.

[Begin Enrile recording] I have signed my name. I am against the treaty because it is very one sided against the Philippines. So, this morning, I signed our resolution. [end recording]

Meanwhile, the 12 senators who signed the nonconcurrence resolution are Senators Pimentel, Ziga, Laurel, Salonga, Tanada, Saguisag, Maceda, Guingona, Aquino, Estrada, Mercado, and Juan Ponce Enrile.

Salonga Says Bases Treaty Dead

HK0909073491 Quezon City MALAYA in English 8 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[By Romy Tangbawan]

[Text] Anti-treaty senators yesterday claimed that the rejection of the proposed bases agreement between the Philippines and the United States is assured, even as the Senate prepares for a floor debate starting tomorrow.

"It's dead," said Senate President Jovito Salonga (LP) [Liberal Party] of the treaty after a caucus where they agreed to draft two differing resolutions.

Pro-bases senators led by Leticia Shahani (LDP [Struggle of the Filipino Democrat], chairman of the Senate committee on foreign relations, insisted on endorsing the ratification of the treaty by the chamber acting as a body.

But Sen Wigberto Tanada (Ind) [independent] countered by filing a resolution endorsing the rejection of the treaty. Seven of his colleagues immediately offered to co-author the document.

Eight votes are enough to reject the proposed treaty, which seeks to extend American control of Subic Naval Base in Olongapo for the next 10 years. The current agreement expires on Sept 16.

Signing the resolution calling for "non-concurrence" of the treaty were Tanada, Salonga, Senators Sotero Laurel (NP) [Nationalist Party], Teofisto Guingona Jr (LP), Ernesto Maceda (PMP [Party of the Filipino Masses], Agapito Aquino (Bandila) [People United in Spirit and Aim], Victor Ziga (LP), and Rene Saguisag (LP).

Tanada said Senators Joseph Estrada (PMP), Juan Ponce Enrile (NP), Orlando Mercado (LP), and Aquilino Pimentel Jr (PDP-Laban) [Filipino Democratic Party-Nation's Strength] are expected to co-author the resolution once it is presented to them.

With 12 votes, the "non-concurrence" resolution, instead of Shahani's proposal, would be reported out for floor debate.

Shahani's proposal was to endorse the concurrence of the treaty with certain changes in the Preamble and the Supplementary Agreement on Installation of Military Operating Procedures.

It sought to include a provision stipulating that at the start of the tenth year of the agreement, an "orderly and expeditious withdrawal (of the U.S. forces)" will start within three months.

Another proposed amendment requires the consent of the Senate if the U.S. wants to store nuclear or nonconventional weapons or their components within the Philippine territory.

After signing the anti-treaty resolution, Maceda said, "For all intents and purposes, the treaty is dead."

Maceda, who was previously undecided, announced yesterday his resolve to vote against the treaty.

"I refuse to legitimize an incompetent act of an incompetent panel. The treaty is an insult to our national dignity," he said.

Sen John Osmena (Ind) proposed to let the treaty expire without Senate action, saying that a better treaty might be negotiated later on.

Nine pro-bases senators, including Shahani and Osmena, have sponsored a bill calling for a national referendum even if the treaty is rejected.

But anti-bases senators vowed to block the move, saying it is designed to circumvent the Constitution just to accommodate the U.S. bases.

Saguisag said the measure needs a majority vote of at least 12 to prosper. He added that even if the bill gets enough support, there is not enough time to act on it.

During his valedictory address at the close of the marathon hearings Friday night, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus appealed once more on the senators to reconsider their position.

While admitting that the treaty he negotiated for 14 months had a lot of flaws, Manglapus argued that "all laws are flawed." "Even the Constitutional provision on the nuclear-free provisions is flawed, otherwise it would not be subject to debates," he said.

"This treaty is the product of a debate between two democratic countries. It is an imperfect but sincere document between two countries," he said.

He said the Philippines is fortunate that the Americans are keeping Subic Naval Base and are willing to provide financial assistance to the country at a time when it is closing down its bases in the U.S. due to budgetary difficulties.

Joining Manglapus' appeal, Shahani reminded his colleagues that "international relations is one thing we have to accept."

"It's not a matter of affection or love but of national interests," she said.

On that point, Prof Jose David Lapuz of the University of Santo Tomas, argued that a relation based on the military bases is an "abnormality and a perversion."

Lapuz said if the two governments come up with a new Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation without the military bases, only then can "true friendship" be achieved.

Aquino Urges Rally Participation

HK0909041891 Quezon City MALAYA in English 9 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[By Marie Rose Feliciano, Noel Bartholome, Romy Tangbawan]

[Excerpts] President Aquino yesterday called on the people to join the pro-treaty rally at the Rizal Park tomorrow in an apparent last-ditch attempt to prevent the Senate from rejecting the proposed agreement on the U.S. military facilities.

[Passage omitted]

Twelve senators are expected to vote down the treaty. Two-thirds of the 23-man Senate, or 16 votes, must ratify the agreement before it expires Sept. 16.

The leftist National Democratic Front [NDF] said the Aquino-led rally may be a cover for "militaristic forces" to provoke violence as a pretext for seizing power and dissolving the Senate.

In a statement, the NDF said: "Militarist forces may create disorder during the mobilization (rally) and give the Aquino government a convenient excuse to dissolve the Senate and do away with the need to ratify the treaty before it is put in effect."

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary Renato de Villa said the rejection of the treaty will weaken the counter-insurgency program of the Armed Forces since it will lose a 10-year supply of military resources from the U.S. "Any reduction of AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] support at this time will be a gain, even if psychologically, on the part of our enemies and will have consequences in our internal security operations," De Villa said.

Brushing aside criticisms that her leading the pro-bases rally would demean the presidency, Mrs. Aquino said she considers it an honor to join the same people who were with her during the 1986 EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] revolution.

She said she will also join the rallyists in a march to the Senate, where she will ask the anti-treaty senators to listen and look at the faces of the people who joined the rally.

"Sasabihin ko sa kanila, 'Mr. Senators, ito ang pakiusap ng ating mamamayan'. Iyon naman ay para bang ipinaaabot ko lamang sa kanila kung ano 'yong mga sinasabi naman sa akin ng ating mga kababayan," Mrs. Aquino said. [I will tell them, Mr Senators, this is the request of the people, it is just like relaying to them what the people are telling me].

Sen. Rene Saguisag (LP) [Liberal Party] said the Aquino-led rally would be "counter-productive" since it will only weaken the government's position in a possible treaty renegotiation.

Saguisag said that instead of joining the rally, the people should instead help congress oppose the prescriptions of Mrs. Aquino's financial advisers, who are against the suspension of payment on fraudulent loans.

"Why fight a battle you gain nothing from by winning? The only clear winner would be the other side," Saguisag said.

The Federation of Free Farmers, Meanwhile, urged government workers not to join the rally and not let themselves be "used to serve the interests of a foreign power."

The President, reporting the outcome of the Council of State meeting in Malacanang last Friday, said Bishop Teodoro Bacani pointed out the senators will disregard the people's sovereignty if they reject the bases.

"When people suffer, please listen to them," she said.

Mrs. Aquino said the 10-year extension of U.S. bases will give the country time to become self-reliant. She added that the American personnel and military facilities will definitely be out of the country after ten years.

U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner, however, indicated that the treaty does not guarantee the pullout of U.S. military facilities after the proposed 10-year extension period.

He said that on the ninth year of the agreement, the U.S. and the Philippine governments will discuss anew the fate of the bases.

As this developed, a Malacanang official said the responsibility of devising alternative measures in case the treaty is rejected falls on the next administration and not on the Aquino administration.

The official admitted that the government has not formulated measures to counter even the immediate effects of a withdrawal.

Meanwhile, aides of anti-bases senators said Malacanang has plans to fill the Senate session hall with pro-treaty "rahrah boys" during the Senate rally.

They said Deputy Director Ida Vargas of the Presidential Broadcast Staff asked the Senate for a media permit for 186 people who could go in and out of the session hall.

The office of the sergeant-at-arms, however, granted permits only to a few.

Nuclear Storage Capacity Viewed

HK0909054591 Quezon City MALAYA in English 9 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Subic Naval Base has a storage capacity for 360 nuclear weapons and 166 nuclear weapons were stored there at the height of the Vietnam War in the early '70s a source privy to the documents of past bases negotiations said yesterday.

The source said that in 1978, former Executive Secretary Alejandro Melchor Jr., who was appointed by then President Marcos as special envoy in connection with the bases issue, submitted a report that "Subic has a storage capacity for 360 nuclear weapons."

The report also said "some 166 nuclear weapons were stored at Subic at the height of the Vietnam War."

The source said the Melchor report was based on a declassified report on the plans of the U.S. Navy up to the year 2010.

The U.S. government maintains a "neither confirm nor deny" policy on the presence of nuclear weapons in any of their military facilities.

The 1987 Constitution provides that "The Philippines, consistent with the national interest, adopts and pursues a policy of freedom from nuclear weapons in its territory."

The proposed RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security, which gives the U.S. at least 10 more years to stay in Subic in exchange for $203 million a year, allows storage or installation of nuclear or non-conventional weapons in Philippine territory if the Philippine government gives its consent.

The treaty also states that transits, overflights or visits of U.S. aircraft or ships in Philippine territory are not considered storage or installation.

In last week's Senate hearing on the treaty, defense officials said the U.S. never asked permission to store nuclear weapons in the bases.

Defense Undersecretary Feliciano Gacis, a member of the Philippine panel, said the government does not have the capability to detect the presence of nuclear weapons in U.S. facilities. "Even if we know a naval vessel seeking a transit permit is nuclear-armed but you know it is man-of-war, you don't board it because such would be an act of hostility."

Communists on Possible Aquino Move

HK0809040291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0345 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 8 (AFP) - Philippine communist guerrillas claimed Sunday that President Corazon Aquino could declare a state of emergency and dissolve the Senate if it rejected a new, 10-year military base agreement with the United States.

The outlawed National Democratic Front (NDF) said a planned pro- treaty rally to be led by Aquino here Tuesday "may be used as a cover for destabilization moves by militarist forces in order to push the Aquino government to declare a state of emergency."

This "may well lead to the dissolution of the Senate and do away with the need to ratify the treaty before it is put in effect," the NDF claimed in a statement to news agencies here.

The government had no immediate reaction to the rebel statement. The armed forces, big business, and influential segments of the dominant Roman Catholic church have endorsed the treaty.

The agreement allowing U.S. forces access to Subic Naval Base until 2001 needs at least 16 favorable votes from the 23-member Senate, the treaty-ratifying body, in order to become valid.

But eight senators ensured its rejection when they signed a resolution Saturday rejecting the agreement. The final vote on the Senate floor is expected later this week.

The NDF, whose armed component the New People's Army (NPA) has been waging a 22-year-old guerrilla war, vowed to "intensify the struggle to end U.S. imperialist domination over the Philippines' political and economic affairs."

"The launching of a coup and the declaration of a state of emergency are acts of desperation resorted to by the U.S. and its local puppets who are seeking the continued hegemony of U.S. imperialism," it added.

Senator Lina Appeals to Colleagues

BK0909061491 Manila PNA in English 0552 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept. 9 (OANA/PNA)—Philippine Senator Jose Lina Jr. Monday appealed to his colleagues not to refuse the hand of friendship of the American people extended to the Filipino people by voting for the ratification of the bases treaty.

In a press statement, Lina said the treaty has imperfections but can be worked out "because our two peoples are friends."

He stressed that the Filipino and American peoples belong to the the family of nations. "Friendship is an intrinsic element that binds that family together," he said.

Lina asked, "What is the Filipino concept of friendship do so say to a friend, give us these material things and the proverbial bag of silver and we shall remain friends?" [as received]

Lina reminded his colleagues in the Senate that the Philippines is a Christian country in the Asia-Pacific region.

"Is not our Christian concept of friendship that which our Lord taught us?" he said.

"Shall we now, like a mercenary, withhold the hand of friendship because of the apparent inadequacy of material and economic assistance?" he asked further.

"I say, agree to a handclasp of friendship, regardless of what President Bush says in his letter to President Aquino and trust instead in one general sense of justice and fairness of the American people," Lina added.

Ramos Interviewed on Bases

HK0909085591 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0030 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Interview with former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos on bases issue by Joe Taruc on "Liberty in Action" program—live; italicized portions in English]

[Excerpts] [Taruc] Secretary Ramos, many people want to know your personal opinion in relation to the bases issue. Are you in favor or against the recently signed treaty?

[Ramos] You know Joe, I have long been an advocate of a gradual phaseout. The treaty which is now before the Senate should be ratified in the best interests of our people. Even if it lacks many things on compensation, labor, lessening our debt burden....in that some of them are not very clear [sentence as heard], under our circumstances this is alright because if this is rejected we will have more problems.

[Taruc] Let us clarify to our listeners the possible effects of ratification and nonratification.

[Ramos] First of all let us look at the effects of rejection. The loss of at least 70,000 jobs among base workers is important. Even if Subic is here, many will still suffer because their high-paying jobs from U.S. facilities would be wiped out.

[Taruc] Secretary, you are referring to employees directly employed with the U.S. bases?

[Ramos] Correct. Now, on the economic impact of the U.S. presence during the past year, meaning, what is the value of their presence in the Philippines in so far as the economy is concerned? That is estimated to be $500 million per year at least. Based on the present exchange rate of the peso to the dollar, this is about 14 billion pesos. This is big money. Not only is it those from Angeles, Olongapo and Central Luzon who benefit from this, but it is the Philippines as a whole. Those who are involved in some kind of export industry and some service industries will all benefit from this. Secondly, and I think this is more important, our friends may look differently on Filipinos in that they will view our posture as being isolationist. Presently isolationism is no longer working Joe, as this world is getting smaller and smaller. If they feel that the Philippines is breaking away from the Asia-Pacific region union this is not good for us.

[Taruc] You know Mr. Secretary, one of the sectors which is fervently supporting our bases treaty ratification is the armed forces sector. What would really be the effect of a treaty rejection on the military?

[Ramos] The modernization program for our military will not be realized. The yearly defense budget given by our Congress is just enough for personnel, maintenance, operating expenses and a little capital outlay. This is just to keep up with our needs for the year but it includes no future projection, no future development. So there is no modernization under the annual defense budget because it is only 11 percent of the national budget. The biggest shares are for the economy, the infrastructure sector, and for the social services sector including education. That is 21 percent.

[Taruc] The Philippine Air Force, the Philippine Navy personnel, say that if the agreement is rejected we may no longer be flying any airplanes or helicopters by 1992.

[Ramos] *That is almost correct, I mean almost 100 percent correct because when I was still there and we were still enjoying this assistance coming from our bases agreement, these helicopters like the Huey which is the workhorse, can fly from 20 to 25, even 30 hours per month, and this is ideal support for Armed Forces operations.* But if military assistance is cut this will be reduced to 3 hours a month. *In other words, we can maybe just fly for training proficiency, maintenance check-ups, but as for supporting operations we may no longer be able to do that.* This is why our soldiers are worried because we may be incurring more casualties. In operations there should be a combination of air support and a little naval support, although the main efforts should be on the ground. It is difficult if it is only the ground forces who are moving because the battles are fought in remote jungle areas.

[Taruc] Mr. Secretary, since the military sector would be the most affected sector if the agreement is not ratified, and there are spreading reports that a coup attempt may occur if the treaty is rejected by the Senate members. What is your opinion on this secretary?

[Ramos] At present, I have not seen this situation yet...

[Taruc interrupting] But is that a possibility?

[Ramos]...but *I will not put it beyond the realm of possibility* because in the mid-term—let us not talk about long-term, let us say within the next 18 months maybe—if the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] encounters so much difficulty in its campaign against the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and we still have a little battle in the Southern Philippines against the secessionist movement, we may lose our gains and achievements and we will go back to square one or to where we started 10 to 15 years ago against the CPP-New People's Army [NPA] and against the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF]. This is sad because our armed forces have sacrificed so much. Many soldiers have been killed and this campaign has been really rigorous and difficult. *And I don't think the Defense Department and the AFP will just willingly give that up, neither will the commander in chief and the president, whoever she or he will be in the future.*

It's going to be a very difficult thing to accept and maybe because of that this has given rise to all these rumors.

[Taruc] Okay. On the other hand, the National Democratic Front issued a statement that if a rejection occurs they will declare a unilateral cease-fire the following day.

[Ramos] That is old news. After the earthquake of July 1990 they said we would have a unilateral cease-fire because they allegedly wanted to help with the disaster and calamity relief operation. They said we should not aggravate the suffering of the Philippine nation. They said the same after the Mt. Pinatubo eruption. But what happened? They continued to kill soldiers and policemen after the big earthquake, and many of our camps and detachments in Pampanga and Zambales after the Mt. Pinatubo eruption have been attacked by them. We suffered some casualties. It is very easy for them to say: We will declare a unilateral cease-fire, because this is only the statement of one person. But their implementation in the field is not in compliance with orders from general headquarters. So we should study this carefully. In fact, we should be skeptical about this, because, on their track record, orders from their spokesmen or their central committee are not enforced by their field units and we continue to have casualties. Now, in order to protect our people in far-flung communities our Armed Forces should maintain a posture of protection and public safety.

[Taruc] Do you have the same perception, Mr. Secretary, on a statement by Mr. Crispin Beltran that if the treaty is rejected they will declare a strike moratorium?

[Ramos] Well, if this could be done that is good for us. Industrial peace is important. For us to attract a lot of investors there must be industrial peace in the country. And that is what domestic entrepreneurs are looking for. If they can do this it is good. But this is yet to be seen.

[Taruc] You are skeptical?

[Ramos] A little.

[Taruc] Mr. Secretary, in relation to the scheduled rally tomorrow, can you tell our listeners what your participation is in this? Are you participating in the rally or not?

[Ramos] Several days ago I announced that I would join the rally, and hopefully we'll be around the president. But I will also be with the supporters of Fidel Ramos. They are very peaceful and law-abiding groups who dream of good government and a better future for Filipinos. These include the United People Power Movement, Friends of Ramos for ...[Ramos changes thought]....Friends and Admirers of Ramos Movement, Women's Auxiliary for Relief Missions—these are ones helping me on modest civic action assistance to Mt. Pinatubo disaster areas—and several others. Maybe, an estimate of about 30,000.

[Taruc] Is this just your personal group, Mr. Secretary?

[Ramos] Yes. This is just from selected places in Metro Manila. We will try to help, not only to expose the issues in favor of ratification, but also to provide some kind of a moderating force just in case a heated situation occurs. *Our group, however, have always been very level headed. These are responsible middle class people.*

[Taruc] Mr. Secretary, many are apprehensive about tomorrow's rally because it has been reported that about 1 million people will be brought there. You know how it is to have a 1 million-strong-group. How will this be managed Mr. Secretary?

[Ramos] What is important here Joe is the commitment of each group to police their ranks. Any disorder should not come from rallyists on President Aquino's side, the pro-bases group. Any disorder should not come from them or lack of proper management. But because of the size of the crowd, as you say, problems may occur. The two groups holding the rallies tomorrow should be separated. The Liwasang Bonifacio which is the venue for the antibases group is very close. *Our law enforcement authorities and commanders should be on alert because they must not allow the two groups to mix, not even to approach each other.* Because arguments could occur within hearing distance. *Even if they are far away physically, if they hear each other's propaganda, chides, etc., these might cause hot tempers and violent actions to flare up./*

[Taruc] Mr. Secretary, perhaps even if they are not kept away from each other, if they are told to hold the rally at a different time that should be alright. For example, the other group will hold the rally in the morning and the other in the afternoon. We should prevent the two groups from meeting each other.

[Ramos] That's right Joe. In fact, one should hold the rally the following day because 11 September would still be timely for any group to bring out their position because the voting will not take place yet in the Senate. Not until 12 September, when they will vote on the proposed resolutions and bills—to either reject or ratify the treaty. So, it is important for the Metro Manila leaders, to give a little separation in terms of time and even place.

[Taruc] From your past experience, Secretary Ramos, in your administration at the Department of National Defense, is the military preparing for rallies like these in advance for security purposes?

[Ramos] That Joe, is like an SOP already for our defense establishment, our armed forces, and the national police. The front liners, in terms of planning and action, are the Philippine National Police [PNP].

I know that this group makes preparations not only on the local level in Metro Manila but also has plans for other regions in order that trouble does not spread in other regions. They also give reinforcement where needed. The Armed Forces and the defense establishment have concurrent plans so that big and widespread rallies like these stay peaceful and manageable.

[Taruc] You know, Secretary Ramos, because of President Aquino's decision to lead this widespread rally, many have criticized her that she should have put herself in this position, heading a rally for the treaty, and that the action asking the senators to change their position is already late. What is your reaction to this sir?

[Ramos] There are many opinions like these. But for me, foremost is the role of the president—to lead the nation, to lead the people. But on this issue, the important thing everybody should know is the stand of the Philippine people. I think this is President Aquino's basis and why she will be there personally. She must lead the people. She must show everyone else, including foreign observers, that this is the will of the Philippine people. And she is the one who is presenting it, together with the 1 million people who will be there. We cannot say that she is heading a rally that will favor a foreign country, that will allow foreign troops to be on Philippine soil. If we look at our neighbors, in Japan, Korea, Germany and other European countries have foreign troops. But the sovereignty of Japan, Korea and Germany is not lessened. In fact, they are the ones paying the Americans just so that the Americans don't leave in order that the region is given protection. We are talking about the region. Here in the Asia-Pacific region we should not forget that the strategic position of the Philippines is very important. Looking at the map, the Philippines is in the middle of Northeast and Southeast Asia. It is in the middle of the South China Sea and in the middle of the Western Pacific area. This is God-given, starting from the very beginning, and will always be there. No one can remove it. No one can destroy it. No one can dismantle it. And if we are wise, this is for the long term as we have to think of the future of younger Filipinos, this is a top card, an ace. We should not waste it. We should not ruin it *by wasting the card.* Look at Singapore; it is a very small country but it is also in a strategic position. Even in the southern part, and they have been able to exploit it. So, they have been very influential and prosperous only because of properly using their strategic advantage.

[Taruc] Are you saying, Mr. Secretary, that the Americans may do everything in their capacity to retain their forces in the country? Because our country is strategically located?

[Ramos] I hope that our American friends, due to their interest of having a viable presence in our region, make the package better. Because if this is sweetened a little within the next few days, I think that among the eight senators who up to now remain opposed to the treaty, maybe convinced in terms of the national people's interest, could agree if the pact is sweetened a bit. [sentence as heard] It has an annual review to find out how the arrangements can be more mutually satisfactory, and this will take effect in December. So, the review period is very close.

[Taruc] What you mean is that even if there are flaws at the moment these could be straightened out after a few months?

[Ramos] That is how life is. That is the way it is in reality. There is no perfect arrangement. There is no perfect structure. Immediately after the inauguration of a building other parts are still being finalized. There are defects.

[Taruc] Mr. Secretary, granted that you were in the position of Cory Aquino, would you organize a rally this big to ask Senate members to change their position? That is if you were president of the Philippines?

[Ramos] Yes. *I think that's really a good idea to show the people's will, and the president must show leadership at a critical time like this. And I would do that.* But if I were the president and an opportunity like this occurred to have the treaty arranged, this would not have happened. I have been saying, and this has been my position three years ago, a gradual phaseout for an orderly transition. And I think that had this been explained to everybody, including the Senate members, *in the way that ...[changes thought] a gradual transition would have done it.* And if the negotiations had been finished six months ago, I think this would not have happened. Things seem more chaotic during the period of the ratification of the treaty by the Senate. We all seem to be under pressure because of the short period left. [passage omitted] [Taruc] Secretary, we have many questions from our listeners. Let us begin with a question by Mixie Venega of Makati. If the treaty is ratified, will the fears of the antibases people of new suffering and pressure to the country come true?

[Ramos] You know, the U.S. has been always blamed for the poverty of our fellowmen. But I think we should blame ourselves more and not blame the foreigners. Although I believe that they prejudiced our people in many ways, even in more serious ways. But the blame should not be shifted to other people. So with the ratification, our economic recovery program and our security program and the stabilization of Asia and the Pacific region should go on.

[Taruc] From Manuel Bernan of Quezon City. According to you, Mr. Secretary, the ratification of the bases treaty is for our benefit. But after so many years, why haven't our Armed Forces modernized?

[Ramos] First of all our defense budget has averaged only 11-12 percent during the last five years and we have always been fighting attempts against our stability. The Philippines has been the only country in recent years in our region that has been faced with an active insurgency. So, our resources and the expertise of our AFP have been poured into this. Other countries have crushed and defeated the communists and their other enemies and thus have modernized early.

[Taruc] Aileen Hernando of Manila said: If you were president now, would you lead a rally to have a treaty ratified; if not, what would you do?

[Ramos] *Yes, I would lead a rally because this is showing the leadership of the presidency, at the same time manifesting the will of the majority of the Filipino people.*

[Taruc] *From Alfredo Dinio from Las Pinas. Please explain the role of the U.S. in an event of aggression to the Philippines by another country. How binding is the treaty if and when the aggressor is also a U.S. ally?*

[Ramos] Under our Mutual Defense Treaty of 1951, it is incumbent on the U.S. to come to the aid of the Philippines, to the defense of the Philippines, regardless of who is the enemy. Any attack on the Philippines is considered an attack on U.S. territory under the Mutual Defense Treaty. That exists. That is not the subject of today's ratification. It will be there whether or not the bases treaty is ratified or not. [passage omitted]

[Taruc] Sali Pata Dinio of Pasig. If you become president, what will you do first to lessen the nation's poverty?

[Ramos] We have to strengthen our stability. This includes stability not only against armed threats but stability politically so that we can attain a speedy economic recovery. [passage omitted]

[Taruc] Lina Moreno of Pasay asks: Should our military really need to depend on the Americans for its modernization? Is the AFP unable to stand on its own feet without any help from the Americans?

[Ramos] All our neighboring countries—Korea, Japan, Taiwan and Thailand—have modernized their armed forces through the military assistance program from the United States. *We should not be too proud to accept it* because we need this.

Senator Salonga Comments

HK0909103491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 9 Sep 91

[By Josette Olivera]

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga expressed the belief that his colleagues in the Senate who signed the the antibases resolution will no longer change their minds.

Those who signed the resolution were Senators Agapito Butz Aquino, Wigberto Tanada, Aquilino Pimentel, Rene Saguisag, Joseph Estrada, Orlando Mercado, Ernesto Maceda, Victor Ziga, Sotero Laurel, Juan Ponce Enrile, and Teofisto Guingona.

In the resolution, the new treaty which continues to allow the retention of the Subic Naval Base for the next 10 years, is being strongly opposed. It is stated in the resolution the treaty failed to enact the principle of sovereign equality because it was just one-sided and the rights and obligations of the two countries are not equal. According to the resolution, the treaty disregarded the Constitution of the Philippines.

Opposing Senators Remain 'Firm'

HK0909124891 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1048 GMT 9 Sep 91

[On-the-spot report, interview with Senator Joseph Estrada by Henry Umaga Diaz of Radio Patrol No. 14; live from the Senate—italicized portions in English]

[Excerpt] [Diaz] The senators, in a closed-door caucus, have agreed to submit to the floor the resolution of Senator Wigberto Tanada, which is the nonconcurrence resolution, and a debate on this will start tomorrow. But in a vote conducted during the closed-door session, 12 remained firm in their opposition to the said military bases, while 11 voted in favor of ratification.

A while ago I spoke to Senator Tanada and he said this means that said treaty will most probably be rejected because based on the scheduled vote and on the survey just conducted among the senators, 12 remain consistently opposed to the treaty's ratification. Therefore, interpellations and deliberations to be conducted on the Senate floor will only be a formality.

According to Senator Alberto Romulo on the other hand, while he voted in favor of the treaty's ratification, he said that, practically, the rejection position with regard to the military bases will surely prevail.

Okay, we are now talking to Senator Joseph Estrada. There has been a vote on the nonconcurrence resolution of Senator Wigberto Tanada. What is your view? Do you think, practically, the treaty is already rejected?

[Estrada] *It's already moot and academic.* The 12 senators are decided not to pursue that treaty because we are united in our view that it is against the national interest and most of all we are looking at the interests of the next generation; so our children and grandchildren will not say that we betrayed our country.

[Diaz] It means, sir, the session tomorrow, the debate scheduled at the Senate floor starting tomorrow, is just a formality?

[Estrada] That's just a formality. *Everything is moot and academic. And, I hope, the sooner the better we finish our debate so that we can already vote on it.*

[Diaz] How many votes would that be, considering that almost everybody already knows the position of each one?

[Estrada] Maybe... [changes thought] *the deadline will be on the 16th.* We will vote on that day. It cannot be later than the 16th.

[Diaz] Thank you. That was Senator Joseph Estrada, and based on his belief, practically, the pro-ratification group has already been defeated. [passage omitted]

Twelve Senators Reject Treaty

HK0909045391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0433 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 9 (AFP) - A majority of the Philippine Senate voted here Monday to reject a new military base treaty with the United States in the first round of balloting on the issue.

Twelve of the 23 senators signed a resolution calling for the rejection of the treaty, which seeks to extend the U.S. military presence in the Philippines by 10 more years.

The resolution is to be debated by the Senate and a second and final vote will be held on or before the current bases agreement expires on September 16.

Supporters of the treaty hope to convince some of the opponents to change their minds, but only eight votes will be required to kill the treaty in the second round.

Two Senators Concede Rejection

HK0909024691 Quezon City MALAYA in English 9 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[By Romy Tangbawan]

[Text] Two pro-bases senators have virtually conceded the rejection of the new bases treaty, saying the anti-bases block has more than the eight votes needed to block ratification.

Sen. Ernesto Herrera (LP) [Liberal Party] said be doubts that last-ditch efforts by President Aquino, which she will dramatize by joining tomorrow's "Yes to the Bases" rally, could swing the Senate vote.

"What will perhaps change the decision of some senators is action by the White House, such as the issue on debt relief and issue of compensation," Herrera said.

Sen. John Osmena (Ind.) [Independent] also unsure of the 16 votes needed to ratify the treaty, proposed the other day that the Senate withhold action on the treaty. This way, he said, there will be room for a renegotiations under a new administration.

Sen. Edgardo Angara (Ind.), another pro-bases advocate, conceded defeat last week and also suggested Senate "non-action" so as to soften the blow on RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. relations.

The senators will vote today at the committee on foreign relations on which resolution to endorse for floor debate.

One resolution sponsored by Sen. Leticia Shahani (LDP) [Struggle of Filipino Democrats] endorses the ratification; another, signed by nine senators, calls for rejection.

Whichever resolution gets a majority vote in the committee will be reported out on the floor.

Debate starts on Tuesday and voting must be held on or before the current bases agreement expires on Sept. 16.

Anti-bases advocates have claimed the treaty is doomed, with 12 senators already decided on rejection.

Herrera said if there is no last=minute concession from Washington, the treaty might not even muster a majority vote, much more a three-fourths move.

Herrera said he has decided to vote "Yes" after getting assurance that Filipino workers displaced by the closure of Clark Air base will receive U.S. assistance.

He said U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner has released $3.7 million for the livelihood projects of the workers and chief U.S. negotiator Richard Armitage has assured him of $10 million more in aid.

Herrera also abandoned hopes on the pro-bases senators' proposal that a referendum be held.

There is no more time to act on the measure and to appropriate funds for it, he said.

The 12 senators who said they would vote against the treaty are Senate President Jovito Salonga (LP), Senate Minority Floor Leader Juan Ponce Enrile (NP) [Nacionalista Party], Senators Joseph Estrada (PMP) [Party of the Filipino Masses], Ernesto Maceda (PMP), Agapito Aquino (Bandila) [People's Unity in Spirit and Aim], Wigberto Tanada (Ind.), Victor Ziga (LP), Orlando Mercado (LP), Aquilino Pimentel Jr. (PDP-Laban) [Pilipino Democratic Party- Nation's Strength], Sotero Laurel (NP), Teofisto Guingona Jr. (LP), and Rene Saguisag (LP).

Those who said they would vote for ratification are Senators Leticia Shahani (LDP), Ernesto Herrera (LDP), John Osmena (Ind.), Edgardo Angara (Ind.), Neptali Gonzales (LDP) and Mamintal Tamano (NP).

Still undecied are Senators Jose Lina Jr. (LDP), Heherson Alvarez (LDP), Alberto Romulo (LDP), and Santanina Rasul (PDP-Laban)

Anti-bases senators said one of the "Undecideds" has vowed to vote against, but wants to keep his position secret to avoid pressure from Malacanang.

Hererra Resigns From Liberal Party

HK0909113191 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Senator Ernesto Hererra resigned from the Liberal Party because of the party's antibases position led by Senate President Jovito Salonga. According to Hererra, the party does not know how to listen to the pulse and requests of the Philippine majority which is to ratify the bases treaty.

The senators' deliberation on the bases agreement continues. Twelve signed a resolution opposing the American bases while eleven are in favor of the ratification of the treaty.

The senators in favor of ratification are Senators Heherson Alvarez, Jose Lina, Edgardo Angara, Mamintal Tamano, Alberto Romulo, Leticia Ramos-Shahani, Ernesto Gonzalez, Gonzalez, Vicente Paterno, Satur [as heard], and John Osmena.

Nonconcurrence Resolution Viewed

HK0909103091 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Interview with pro-bases Senator Edgardo Angara by Restie de Quiros and DZRH anchorman Joe Taruc—live]

[Text] [De Quiros] The senators are now preparing for a caucus this afternoon in which they will vote on two resolutions—the concurrence and nonconcurrence. We learned that 12 senators signed the nonconcurrence resolution which means they reject the continuous stay of the military bases in our country. Senator Edgardo Angara, one of the pro-bases senators, is here; and we will ask him what are the options by the pro-bases senators in case the treaty is finally rejected.

[Angara] I think the correct question should be, what is the government's alternative if this treaty is rejected like what we are seeing now—it looks as though it will indeed be rejected because 12 senators have a resolution against ratification. One scenario would be for the Americans to invoke the Ramos-Rusk Agreement to avail of the one year period to stay in the Philippines. After this, either they will leave or prepare for renegotiation with the new government which we will elect in May 1992.

[De Quiros] Mr. Senator, this Ramos-Rusk Agreement, does this not violate our Constitution which states that after 16 September no foreign military troops will be allowed in our country?

[Angara] I do not think so, because this Ramos-Rusk Agreement was already in place before we ratified our Constitution. The people who ratified the Constitution know that after 16 September 1991, the Americans have one more year to prepare for withdrawal. You cannot expect the Americans to leave on 17 September, one day after 16 September, because that is just unreasonable.

[De Quiros] Mr. Senator, will there be renegotiation after that one year so they can continue to stay here?

[Angara] That is a possibility. This is not probable but it also is not impossible because theoretically, they still have time until September 1992. When the new government enters, a new agreement may take place.

[De Quiros] Senator Osmena said earlier that the pro-bases senators will filibuster during the floor deliberation. Is this true, Mr. Senator?

[Angara] I do not think that is true. What is the advantage or benefit of a filibuster? I think it is better for us to hold a quick vote and let us put an end to this division so we can face the future. This has been an issue which has divided us in the past month or so. For me, instead of a debate, I think it is better to vote on it so the Senate can formally decide.

[De Quiros] Senator Osmena said if the United States wants to have their bases retained in the country, it should be willing to give concessions so that the antibases senators may change their minds.

[Angara] Well, now that they know the treaty is lost, they still have four days. So, if America really wants to amend the treaty, they still have sufficient time to do this. A filibuster is not needed.

[De Quiros] Yes, Comrade Joe?

[Taruc] Can we ask Senator Angara some things?

[De Quiros] Mr. Senator, here is anchorman Joe Taruc. He wants to ask you some questions.

[Taruc] Mr. Senator, we are talking about possibilities. If the new treaty is finally rejected and the Americans invoke the Ramos-Rusk Agreement which states that they have one year to pullout, if the Americans do not pull out, can the Philippines do something?

[Angara] I think they have more weapons and ships. I think they will pull out. If they decide to leave our country, I think within six months they can pull out.

[Taruc] So, if the military bases are that important to them and that if their positioning is so strategic and they decide not to leave, we cannot do anything about it.

[Angara] I think we cannot do anything. But, I think America would face risks because that will be defying our Constitution and I think that is not wise.

[Taruc] One more thing Mr. Senator, just in case this rejection pulls through, will this mean that the government will no longer receive aid and rent from the United States starting January 1992?

[Angara] I do not think so, Joe. We would still receive aid. I think what we will lose are the quotas because these quotas are given by America to its friends. And if they no longer keep their military bases here, they can say they no longer have a reason to grant us additional quotas on garments, electronics, sugar, and coconut oil. So this could be one of those which have to be reduced. [sentence as heard] Second, their donation to the multilateral assistance—the PAP, the Philippine Assistance Program, it is possible that they will no longer contribute to this. They have been contributing $160 million to this, yearly. Maybe they will not continue this contribution anymore and their help to the economic support fund may stop, too. So, in cash our economy will lose about $300 million.

[Taruc] As of this minute, Mr. Senator, what is the status in the Senate? Is the rejection final or are there still chances for a ratification?

[Angara] This action is still on a committee level of the foreign affairs. But this committee action will say what the action in the plenary would be. At present, 12 senators signed the nonconcurrence resolution. This is an indication that on the floor, these 12 will remain united and will reject the treaty. So, now, after the committee action, you can say that the Senate has rejected the treaty.

Pro-Bases Senators May Filibuster

HK0909100491 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Sep 91

[By Restie de Quiros]

[Text] Senator John Osmena expressed optimism that the signed Republic of the Philippines [RP]-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security may still get the affirmative vote which it needs to be ratified.

The statement by Osmena was made despite the increase in the number of signatories of the nonconcurrence resolution which means the rejection of the treaty. According to Osmena, the senators who signed the nonconcurrence resolution which contains proposed amendments on the treaty, may still change their positions when the time for voting on the ratification of the treaty comes. If these antibases senators remain firm in their positions, Osmena said the pro-bases senators will do everything in their power to have the treaty ratified.

According to Osmena, the pro-bases senators are prepared to filibuster during the floor deliberations in order that they may consume the time allotted for the voting on the ratification of the bases treaty.

[Begin Osmena recording] The floor leader of our group is Senator Gonzales. I told Senator Gonzales that whatever their decision is and if they ask me to carry it out, I am ready. I will be ready in a matter of hours. I have done it before. But of course, I am now a little bit older, since that was way back in 1972. Nineteen years have passed. However, I believe that my knees can still manage to stand for 24 hours. [end recording]

Following this, Osmena also said that in this way the old RP-U.S. Military Bases Agreement will end without a treaty which is neither ratified nor rejected by the Senate. The agreement is scheduled to expire on the 16 September of this year, and it is at this time that U.S. troops are expected to withdraw from the country.

Meanwhile, Senator Mercado said the deferment of the country's foreign debt payments would convince him to reconsider his position on the treaty.

Aquino Says Rejection 'Foolish'

HK0909131291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1246 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 9 (AFP)—The Philippine Senate rejected a controversial new military base treaty with the United States in a first round of balloting here Monday.

President Corazon Aquino, making a last-minute pitch for ratification in a nationwide television broadcast, said rejecting the treaty allowing U.S. forces to remain at Subic Naval Base until 2001 would be "foolish" and potentially disastrous.

A resolution rejecting the treaty won by 12 votes against 11 in the Senate foreign relations committee, expanded to include all 23 senators, and both sides said the position was likely to be maintained when the final vote was taken in the Senate on or before September 16, the expiry of the current lease.

Eight votes are all that is needed to kill the treaty.

"The treaty is dead. It only remains to be buried," said Senator Aquilino Pimentel, who voted against the pact. "We can consider the treaty rejected," agreed Senator Alberto Romulo, who voted for ratification.

Pimentel, however, said Washington might wait for a new Senate to be voted in office in May next year and then negotiate a new treaty after invoking a prior understanding that would give U.S. troops a year to leave the country after the end of the current base agreement.

But the treaty's main supporter, Senator Leticia Shahani, said after the preliminary vote that she had been told by U.S. officials that they would refrain from renegotiating.

"The United States is a global power. They are not going to beg to stay," she said.

"If the instution of one country says 'we do not wish to ratify the treaty,' that's it," she added. "This is a serious move and you do not just renegotiate like that."

In her television address, Aquino renewed a call for Filipinos to take part in a rally in favor the the treaty Tuesday, and compared her crusade to the "people power" uprising which toppled the Ferdinand Marcos dictatorship in 1986.

She conceded that it was an "acknowledged fact" that a majority of the senators were against the treaty and that this was their "democratic right fully guaranteed by our Constitution."

"But neither this fact, nor the possibility that the Senate may, as one body, reject the treaty, should pre-empt the people's right and freedom to make their voices heard," she added.

Aquino compared her decision to mobilize "people power" with the popular revolt touched off by her election supporters after she declared that Marcos had cheated her out of victory in the February 1986 snap presidential election.

She said Manila was "not in a position" to respond to the problems of lost jobs and devastated farmlands and infrastructure created by the eruption of Mount Pinatubo in June.

"It would be ill-advised, even foolish, on our part, to complicate the situation further by expanding the dislocation of so many of our countrymen," she added.

Her estranged vice president Salvador Laurel pulled out Monday from the planned rally but stressed his support to the treaty. He told reporters after calling on Aquino that the treaty "is sure to be rejected" and time is better spent preparing for the problems that will result from it.

Senator Ernesto Maceda, who voted "no," said the rally, which organizers said would include at least half a million people, will have "absolutely no effect on the senators."

"It is not impossible," pro-treaty Senator John Osmena said, adding that the initial victory of the "no" side was a signal to Washington that "if you really want a treaty, maybe you can still pull off a miracle."

He earlier said a debt-forgiveness package patterned after those granted by the United States to Poland and Egypt could swing the crucial votes needed for the treaty's approval.

The "no" resolution said the pact was a "one-sided, unequal agreement" that "flagrantly manifests a general lack of respect for the Philippine Constitution" by exposing Manila to war and allowing nuclear weapons on its territory.

Critics have also complained that the compensation package of 2.2 billion dollars was too small compared to the aid given to other U.S. allies which do not host U.S. forces.

Washington earlier declared that it would pull out all its forces by September 1992 from Clark Air Base, a former fighter facility devastated by Pinatubo's eruption.

Aquino To 'Welcome' Any Result

BK0909090991 Manila PNA in English 0851 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept. 9 (OANA/PNA)—Philippine President Corazon C. Aquino Monday said she would welcome whatever result would be achieved from the present effort of her administration for the ratification of the proposed treaty of friendship, cooperation, and security between the Philippines and the United States.

In a press statement the president said the result, whether favorable or not, would definitely aid the country in building a new nation, which, she pointed out, "will be a more mature and better nation as a result of this soul searching."

The chief executive also lashed out at her political opponents who are critical of the government's goal to have the treaty ratified, saying "creating fictitious rightist dragons where none exists is not a useful endeavor at anytime."

President Aquino has been consistent with her stand to support ratification of the treaty, stressing if such is achieved, it would redound to the sound political and economic welfare of the entire nation.

She had continously urged all sectors, specifically the Senate, which strongly opposes the pact, to support her plea for the benefit of the Filipino people.

Schedules for 10 Sep Rallies

HK0909103791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Sep 91

[On-the-spot report, interview with Sonny Casulla of DZRH Mobile Unit No. 9 by anchorman Joe Taruc; live from city of Manila—italicized portion in English]

[Text] [Casulla] Chief Superintendent Ernesto Diokno, chief of the Western Police District Command, says that there will be maximum tolerance for everyone who joins the march-rally of the pro-bases and antibases groups which will both end up at the Senate.

According to Diokno, he has already mobilized 1,300 policemen under his jurisdiction to ensure the safety of the rallyists, especially of the Philippine president, who will lead the pro-bases rally.

[Diokno] *We are ready about the rally tomorrow. We are already preparing the ...[changes thought] we have already passed around 1,300 policemen for the rally tomorrow; because the other cause-oriented group, the other side, will also hold a rally. There will be a peaceful rally. We will assure that and we will maximize our efforts to have a peaceful rally.*

[Casulla] That was Chief Superintendent Ernesto Diokno. In continuation of that, the pro-bases rallyists will assemble at the Quirino Grandstand at Luneta Park at 0800 and afterward march to the Senate for their speeches, which have been limited to last only until 1545. After the pro-bases rally, the antibases group, which will assemble in Bonifacio Plaza and also march toward the Senate, will start with their speeches. That will last only until 1800. Diokno also clarified that both sides have obtained rally permits from Manila City Hall.

[Taruc] Sonny, we would like only to clarify—so the assembly time of the pro-bases rally is 0800?

[Casulla] That is up to them if they want to assemble at 0800.

[Taruc] So as not to create confusion Sonny, it is not 1300?

[Casulla] Well, there are some who would like to assemble at 1300. But there are groups requesting 0800. And during General Diokno's news conference a while ago, he said that they have granted a longer time because President Aquino is joining the rally. That he particularly mentioned a while ago.

[Taruc] So at what time is their program slated to begin at the Quirino Grandstand?

[Casulla] At 1400. They will start their program at the grandstand at 1400.

[Taruc] And from the grandstand, they will proceed to the Senate and stay there up to 1500?

[Casulla] 1545. That is their schedule. Based on the meeting of Manila City Mayor Mel Lopez with the rallyists, it has been agreed by the pro- and antibases groups that they will hold their rallies at separate venues. The pro-bases will be at the Quirino Grandstand and the antibases at Bonifacio Plaza. It was also agreed that the pro-bases group will hold their rally from 1315 up to 1545; and the antibases group will hold their rally from 1500 up to 1800. That is their schedule. So that is our clarification, Joe.

[Taruc] Thank you very much, Sonny.

[Casulla] Thank you very much too, Joe. Friends, that was our report from the city of Manila. Sonny Casulla, Mobile Nine, with Magno Matias reporting on-the-spot for DZRH.

Separate Rally Venues Specified

HK0909090391 Quezon City DWDD Defense Department Radio in Tagalog 0700 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] The pro-bases and antibases rallies were intentionally scheduled to be held in separate venues to avoid trouble. This was announced by Capital Command Chief Brigadier General Marino Filart.

Following this, Filart assured that their forces are ready for any probable tension tomorrow. The police likewise limited the venue and time of each rally.

Meanwhile, 15,000 participants from Olongapo are already prepared to travel to Manila for the rally tomorrow at Rizal Park. According to the report, some are going to start their travel to Manila later, at twelve midnight, from their respective homes.

Laurel Not To Attend Rally

HK0909095291 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Interview with Vice President Salvador Laurel Jr. by anchorman Joe Taruc on the pro-bases rally scheduled for 10 September—live; italicized passages in English]

[Text] [Joe Taruc] Mr. Vice President, good afternoon.

[Salvador Laurel] Good afternoon to you too, Joe.

[Taruc] First, may we know the result of your meeting with President Cory Aquino this afternoon.

[Laurel] I just came from Malacanang and I told President Aquino that I cannot come tomorrow. *I cannot join her for the rally.* Actually, my position is simple. *I think out of respect for the Senate, we should not hold the rally anymore.* We should respect the Senate in its effort to arrive at a decision. The Senate committee has already decided and said that they will reject the treaty; and tomorrow they will deliberate. So, I was thinking, why should we still hold a rally tomorrow simultaneously? *We should allow the Senate to come out with its decision. And we should respect the decision once it is handed down.* I told President Aquino, *we should instead concentrate,* reinvigorate our efforts in finding solutions for the series of problems that are to come when the treaty is rejected. We would really be facing a lot of problems afterward.

[Taruc] We will just clarify Vice President Laurel, this means that you have already notified in advance that you cannot attend the big [pro-bases] rally tomorrow afternoon.

[Laurel] That was what I said to President Aquino a while ago in Malacanang.

[Taruc] Did you suggest anything to President Aquino regarding what should be done in the face of an impending rejection of the treaty?

[Laurel] Well, a lot. And we really have to help each other on that matter. *We are facing hard times. We will have to manage by whatever we have;* by whatever we still can strive to utilize for the good. Many poor will become poorer. Businessmen will really complain. The military will have a reduced budget of 7.5 billion Philippine pesos, and will also complain. And many will suffer. And those are the things that should preoccupy our minds instead of attending the rally and spending whatever amount. We had better attend to the problems because the treaty will surely be rejected.

[Taruc] Aside from the treaty, did you discuss anything else with President Corazon Aquino, Mr. Vice President?

[Laurel] No. I only stayed there for just a short while. I did not stay long. *I just wanted her to know* because she might expect me to attend tomorrow. *I told her* that I can no longer attend.

[Taruc] Okay, thank you very much, Mr. Vice President. We hope this is clear with our listeners.

[Laurel] Yes. Thank you. Thank you.

Angara Explains Senate Procedure

HK0909144991 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 1100 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Interview with Senator Edgardo Angara by Henry Umaga Diaz of Radio Patrol No. 14; live from the Senate]

[Text] [Diaz] In relation to the decision of the senators to present the nonconcurrence resolution to the Senate, which will be deliberated on starting tomorrow, we are interviewing Senator Edgardo Angara now on what are the possibilities, on what are the procedures to be followed in connection with what they have decided during the caucus which was conducted by the senators.

Sir, what will happen now?

[Angara] The nonconcurrence resolution of Senator Tanada will be the one submitted to the Senate floor for deliberation starting tomorrow.

[Diaz] Then what will happen with that?

[Angara] What will happen is, Senator Tanada will render a sponsorship speech and will be questioned through interpellation by the pro-bases senators. And we hope that this debate will happen tomorrow, Tuesday, Thursday, no, tomorrow, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Thursday, we might already vote on the so-called second reading. And in that second reading, we only need a simple majority vote. Therefore, whoever obtains 12 will win. Afterward, we will have to set aside the debates for three days as required by our Constitution, which specifies the need to print the resolution and the treaty. Then there will be a so-called third reading on Monday [16 September]. And on the third reading, 16 affirmative votes are required to ratify this said treaty. And if eight senators oppose this treaty, then this treaty is defeated. So it will just be explanations on Monday.

[Diaz] So that means there are actually two rounds of voting?

[Angara reiterates] Two rounds of voting, the so-called second and third readings. But in the second reading, the two-thirds majority vote is no longer required, we only need the two-thirds majority vote in the third reading, which might be held on Monday.

[Diaz] Because the 12 are quite firm in their opposition to the bases, what is the possibility for the treaty to be revised and ratified?

[Angara] I think it is already difficult to reverse the position because the 12 votes are no longer required. Only eight votes are required. So even if one, two or up to three senators change their minds about the treaty, it will still be difficult.

[Diaz] Suppose in the first round of voting, wherein only a simple majority vote is required, one of the 12 senators switches to the other side which is in concurrence with the treaty, what will happen?

[Angara] That is the anomaly in the procedure we adopted. We endorsed only the concurrence [as heard], because if one reverses his stand in the second reading, wherein only a simple majority vote is required, what will happen is that the nonconcurrence will be defeated in the second reading and we can no longer proceed to the third reading if we do not reinstate the concurrence resolution. So this procedure we have adopted tonight is quite anomalous.

[Diaz] Suppose one of the 12 breaks away, will you vote again on the concurrence?

[Angara] I think the concurrence resolution will be recalled and we will vote on it again.

[Diaz] And only eight would still be needed?

[Angara] Eight only is required to defeat.

[Diaz] I see, okay, thank you very much. That was Senator Edgardo Angara, who explained the procedures pertaining to the scheduled debates and the procedures following the decision of the senators today, in a closed-door caucus, to submit to the Senate floor the nonconcurrence resolution of Senator Wigberto Tanada.

Guingona Proposes Debt Relief

HK0909054491 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 Sep 91 p B-1

[By Olaf S. Garon]

[Text] Senate Majority Floor Leader Teofisto Guingona Jr has proposed that a debt relief "understanding" be appended to the bases treaty pending in the Senate "to bring down our $3-billion yearly debt service to more manageable levels."

Guingona said many of the senators, including two or three "hardliners," may vote for the proposed Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security due to this amendment because his proposal involves not only security but also the future economic well-being of the nation.

It was the sentiment among the senators that both U.S. and Philippine negotiators would accept such an amendment in the treaty recently signed by Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus and U.S. Ambassador Frank Wisner.

Guingona said that debt relief schemes for commercial and bilateral loans should provide for substantial interest and principal savings as well as retirement of the debts.

The debt reduction on the $6.4 billion commercial loans will entail the buyback of the eligible debts by the

Philippine government with non-interest bearing bonds guaranteed by the U.S. government.

The terms of the bonds, Guingona said, will be for five years from the date of maturity of the debt and the purchase price will be the discounted market price.

The senator explained further an agreed premium will be incorporated in the bond amount and a sinking fund set up using funds raised from multilateral aid programs and the World Banks, with assistance and suasion from the U.S.

Police Official Warns on Rejection

HK0909032191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0258 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 9 (AFP) - Military coup attempts could be launched against the government if the Philippine Senate fails to ratify a new treaty extending the U.S. military presence in the country, a former defense secretary said Monday.

Fidel Ramos said "the modernization of our armed forces will not be realized" if the new treaty extending the lease on Subic Naval Base for 10 years is not ratified.

A Senate vote on the treaty is expected on September 14, two days before the current bases agreement expires. The new treaty also provides for a pullout from Clark Air Base, damaged by a volcanic eruption, before September 1992.

Asked whether a new coup attempt was possible if the treaty was rejected, Ramos said: "As of now, I don't see such a situation, but I will not put it beyond the realm of possibility."

President Corazon Aquino has survived seven coup attempts by rebel soldiers since she assumed power in 1986. She could have been toppled in the December 1989 coup bid if not for the help of U.S. authorities who sent Phantom jets to chase the rebels away.

Ramos said the abrupt removal of Subic could set back the military's campaign against communist rebels and Moslem secessionists by 10 to 15 years.

He also belittled the promise of communist guerillas to declare a unilateral ceasefire if the treaty was rejected, saying the rebels were the first to violate their previous announcements.

Meanwhile, leading law enforcement officials said Monday that crime would increase if U.S. bases in the Philippines were forced to close.

National police deputy director-general Manuel Roxas and National Bureau of Investigation chief Alfredo Lim agreed that the shut down of the bases would cause economic dislocation forcing more people to resort to crime.

"Definitely, there will be a rise in the incidence of crime. The poorer the people, the higher the crime rate," Roxas said at a breakfast forum on the crime situation.

Ambassador to Japan Comments

HK0909044591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 9 Sep 91 pp 1, 21

[Text] Ambassador Ramon del Rosario, Philippine envoy to Japan, has warned that a failure to ratify the RP [Republic of the Philippines]-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security could send the wrong signals to Asian neighbors, and create adverse developments "inimical to our best interests."

In a letter to Sen. Leticia Ramos Shahani, Senate foreign relations committee chairman, the Philippine envoy expressed his "deep concerns" regarding the fate of the treaty now pending ratification in the Senate.

Del Rosario said that the support of Philippine allies must not be taken for granted "in the context of Asian regional security."

He said: "The goodwill, support, and confidence in the Philippines of our friends abroad, including Japan, cannot be taken for granted, and cannot be realistically divorced from a desire on their part to see the Philippines successfully conclude this Treaty with the United States in the context of Asian regional security."

At the same time, he said that the country does not have enough resources to undertake both national economic rehabilitation and base conversion in the light of the destruction wrought by Mt. Pinatubo.

Aside from the lack of resources, Del Rosario also pointed to the "most awesome consequences in terms of immeasurable economic and social costs to the country if the treaty fails to pass."

Although the Philippine economy has had positive growth every year since 1986, our growth rates have been far lower than those of our neighboring ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and Asia-Pacific countries," he said.

The Philippine envoy to Japan also said that he was not "in any way" endorsing the perpetual tenure of a foreign military presence in the country.

"What is a paramount importance, at this immediate stage is to take advantage of every opportunity to begin our economic build-up. This Treaty promises opportunities for doing so, without obliging us to observe indefinite commitments."

Del Rosario stressed that time is a constraint "and therefore we should avoid placing any more drags on the economy."

The ambassador also said that the recent Gulf War and crisis elsewhere, should "warn us against a precipitate abandonment of our security arrangements with the

United States, particularly when we must devote ourselves fully to domestic economic rehabilitation and reconstruction".

He said this Treaty allows Filipinos a breathing space to promote economic growth using resources that might otherwise have to be spent on defense.

Del Rosario further said: "We should respect the attitude already expressed by our Asian neighbors, since the bilateral...security arrangements are clearly central to their own security as well."

Though the security aspect remains critical, Del Rosario said that it should no longer be the single most important part of our relations with the U.S.

This Treaty opens the way for the establishment of a better-balanced RP-U.S. partnership, consistent with the progressive trends of the world today, said the envoy.

The diplomat also stressed the need to consider the impact that the absence of this Treaty may have on the prospective inflows of foreign financial assistance and foreign investments, particularly within the framework of the Mutual Assistance Aid and Philippine Aid Program (MAI/PAP).

Del Rosario expressed confidence that the country "which had the courage to give People's Power to the world, will also have the responsibility, commensurate with the courage, to make the right decision in this crucial issue."

Final Decision Scheduled 12 Sep

HK0709024591 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] The Senate has concluded its marathon hearings on the Republic of the Philippines-U.S. Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Security. At 0900 this morning, an executive session will be held by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations for its report to the members of the Senate. Members of the Senate will issue their final decision on the treaty on Thursday, 12 September.

Aquino on Replacing Resigning Cabinet Members

HK0209114091 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 31 Aug 91 p 14

[By Fred Lobo]

[Text] President Aquino said yesterday that Malacanang is now preparing for the resignation of some Cabinet officials who will run for elective posts in the 1992 elections.

The President also said that her administration will also properly address other election-related political events that threaten to derail priority activities of the government, such as the ban on spending.

Mrs. Aquino said that contingency plans are embodied in the Agenda for Action laid down by the Cabinet for the last 10 months of her administration.

"The discussion in the Cabinet centered on the proper responses to these potentially destabilizing topics. We are looking for the prudent government actions in response to these possible developments," the President said.

"We are expecting that some members of the Cabinet will resign to run for public office or to return to the private sector," she added.

Among those who are intending to run for the Senate are Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III and Budget Secretary Guillermo Carague. Executive Secretary Franklin M. Drilon said that he has set aside his plan to run for the Senate to devote his energies to the pressing demands of his new post, while Customs Commissioner Salvador Mison is reportedly resigning to stop intrigues and clashes with politicians.

The President also added, "we also expect that the ban on spending that will come with the onset of the electoral campaign may derail some important projects."

Communists Said 'Set To Declare' Cease-Fire

HK0809082891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0815 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Manila, Sept 8 (AFP)—Philippine communist guerrillas are set to declare a unilateral ceasefire with the Senate about to reject a new military base agreement with the United States, an insurgent communique said here Sunday.

"On the basis of an apparent trend for the rejection of the Philippine-U.S. military base treaty, the National Democratic Front (NDF) is set to declare a unilateral ceasefire and is preparing the mechanisms for its implementation," it said.

The NDF is the political arm of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and its military wing, the New People's Army (NPA), which has been waging a rebellion for 22 years.

The NDF statement was sent to news agencies here a day after eight of the 23-member Senate, the country's treaty-ratifying body, signed a resolution rejecting the new agreement granting U.S. forces access to Subic Naval Base until the year 2001.

The resolution effectively doomed the treaty, which needed to muster at least 16 favorable votes in order to become valid.

NDF sources here said the nationwide ceasefire would be on an "as is, where is" basis with respect to its guerrilla units, meaning they will not lay down their arms and will defend their zones of influence from any incursion by the military.

They said the truce could go in effect as early as Tuesday.

There was no immediate reaction available from the government of President Corazon Aquino.

Thailand

Government Preparing To Recognize Baltic States

BK0909071491 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] This morning at the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center, asked if Thailand will recognize the three republics which have declared their independence from the Soviet Union, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said it is a good development that the Soviet Union has agreed to the independence announcements of the three Baltic republics.

In the next step, the three republics will become members of the United Nations. For Thailand, the Foreign Ministry will further carry out action to give recognition to the three republics, concluded the prime minister.

Progress Noted in Thai-U.S. Trade Disputes

BK0809081291 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 8 Sep 91

[From "News in Perspective" feature]

[Text] After Thailand and the United States concluded a new bilateral textile agreement last Tuesday, both sides began discussions on intellectual property issues to resolve their differences. The two countries have adopted more compromising stances, making headway towards satisfactory solution beneficial to both sides.

In late April this year, the U.S. Trade Representative Office named Thailand one of the three countries resorting to unfair trade practices as priority foreign countries for retaliatory measures, according to Section 301 in the U.S. Trade Act. Despite the decisions, the two countries have continued to work constructively to resolve the trade dispute.

On the part of Thailand, it has reviewed its policy and attitude towards the U.S., including the amendment of law providing protection for copyright and patent as well as its dependency on exports to the U.S.

On 7 June this year, Thailand's new trademark bill providing top penalties against copies of famous of brand name products passed its first reading in the National Legislative Assembly. Under the bill, which was passed in the second and third readings in Parliament on 6 September, law protection will be provided in the enforcement of trademark including the protection of service, certification, and collective trademarks. Counterfeiters of a trademark or a service trademark registered in Thailand are liable to imprisonment not exceeding five years or a fine of 400,000 baht or both. Imitating a trademark or a service trademark registered in Thailand in order to mislead buyers into believing such trademark or service trademark is genuine carries a jail term of up to two years or a fine of 200,000 baht or both. People who normally sell products bearing counterfeit or imitating trademarks are liable to one year imprisonment or a 20,000 baht fine or both. Convicted people who commit new offences within five years after completing their jail term will face twice the punishment if convicted again on the same charges.

Apart from the progress Thailand has made on the amendment to trademark law, the suppression of violators has been continuously carried out with the crackdown on 50 suspected audio and video pirates and seized contrabands of over 30 million baht worth.

It has been believed that Thailand's listing as a priority foreign country would not have an adverse effect on exports to the U.S. During the first quarter of this year, Thailand gained a trade surplus of 1.4 billion baht with the U.S. The exports to the U.S. in the first quarter amounted to 19.4 billion baht while imports were 18 billion baht. The U.S. is Thailand's largest export market, taking 22 to 23 percent of total shipment. Thailand mainly exports to the U.S. rice, rubber, shrimp, canned fish, shoes, garments, jewelry, electrical appliances and parts, furniture, and integrated circuit boards. Major imports from the U.S. include food and beverages, medical and pharmaceutical products, scientific and optional instruments, electrical appliances, and fibers.

The U.S. commercial presence in Thailand is also large and growing. Last year, U.S. firms received the Board of Investment's approval to invest in 72 new projects valued at over 1 billion U.S. dollars. Thailand has still been viewed by the U.S. as a nation of great potential, both as a market for its high-quality products and services and as a source of competitive goods to satisfy the needs of U.S. consumers.

Commerce Minister on Trade Talks With U.S.

BK0809072391 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on has encouraged U.S. businessmen to invest more in Thailand as a way to reduce the U.S. trade deficit with Thailand. Mr. Amaret will be inviting American investors, especially car manufacturers, to take advantage of the favorable investment climate as the Thai Government is adopting a fair trade and economic policy.

He told his U.S. counterpart Robert Mosbacher during their recent meeting in the United States that Thailand has reduced import duty on several goods and machinery. These include a 35 percent reduction for computers and parts. New import duties on foreign cars and other industrial products has also been announced, opening up an opportunity for U.S. goods to compete in the Thai market.

Mr. Amaret's suggestion was made in response to Mr. Mosbacher's concern over the U.S. trade deficit with Thailand. He, however, told his American counterpart that although Thailand has a trade surplus with the United States, it suffered a deficit with other trading partners because of its need to import machinery to boost its industrial output.

Textile Agreement Praised

BK0709075791 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on lauded the concluded Thai-U.S. textile agreement as a solid proof that if both sides negotiate in good faith and are ready to compromise when necessary, satisfactory solutions can be found. Speaking after the signing ceremony at the office of the U.S. Trade Representative in Washington D.C. in which he and Ambassador Carla Hills, the U.S. trade representative, exchanged notes on the agreement concluded in Phuket and Bangkok in June this year, Mr. Amaret described the agreement as mutually acceptable and hopefully equally beneficial.

Immediately following the signing ceremony, Thai commerce minister and U.S. trade representative began discussions of intellectual property issues. Mr. Amaret said that he hoped the concluded agreement would set the right frame of mind and a positive atmosphere for talks on other equally important and difficult issues, referring to intellectual property issues under discussions.

Delegation To Deliver Flood Relief To Cambodia

BK0709013791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Sep 91 p A1

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Wichian Watthanakhun will leave for Phnom Penh on Tuesday, marking the first official visit, to hand over emergency aid for Cambodian flood victims, informed sources said.

Wichian will lead a 20-member delegation for the one-day visit to Phnom Penh on Tuesday to deliver Bt [baht] 10-million worth of medicines, rucksacks, tents, food and rice seeds for the estimated 150,000 victims of the severe floods.

The decision was made yesterday by a special committee at a meeting, chaired by Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin following a call by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who currently serves as the chairman of the Supreme National Council, for emergency aid. The committee was set up recently to consider humanitarian and emergency aid to respond to appeals made by countries that suffered from natural catastrophes such as in the Philippines, Bangladesh and China.

Before leaving Bangkok, Sihanouk asked Asa whether Thailand could provide some aid to Cambodia. Japan and Australia have offered relief assistance.

One of the sources said that despite some initial reluctance due to the domestic needs as results of recent floods in Chiang Rai and Mukdahan, the Foreign Ministry decided to respond to Sihanouk's call. "The war-ravaged country is in need of emergency aid. As a good neighbour we have to respond quickly," the source said.

Two military C-130 transport planes will carry the emergency assistance to Cambodia. The Foreign Ministry said over hundreds of thousands hectares of cultivated land in Kampong Speu and Kampong Cham have been affected by the inundation.

Wichian's departure date was moved up by one day as the ministry fears that flood levels would rise and inundate Po Chentong Airport.

International relief agencies have already speeded up their relief delivery.

Phnom Penh's deputy prime minister Kong Sam-ol, who is coordinating international relief efforts, will receive Wichian and his delegation.

The second team led by Sorayut Phromphet, ambassador at large, will leave Bangkok on Tursday for a three-day visit to secure a plot of land for the country's new embassy.

The Foreign Ministry has allocated Bt50 million to set up a new embassy to replace the old one, which is small and situated in a crowded area.

Contacts between Bangkok and Phnom Penh used to be low-key and informal. After the four Cambodian factions agreed to work toward a peace settlement through the SNC, Thailand gradually began to broaden its contacts with Phnom Penh.

Under the previous administration, Cambodians under the Phnom Penh government had received training from Thailand in public health, banking and aviation.

Thai Airways International will soon operate the Bangkok-Phnom Penh route after a delay caused by the political uncertainty surrounding the Cambodian question.

Health Minister Plans Visit

BK0609012191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Sep 91 p A5

[Text] A Senior Public Health official will visit Cambodia next week to hand over Thai emergency assistance to flood victims there and assess the Thai humanitarian aid to post-war Cambodia, according to informed government sources.

The trip by Public Health Minister Phairot Ningsanon will mark the first visit ever by a minister from a non-communist country to the war-ravaged nation.

Phairot will bring with him Thai aid to the Cambodians affected by the severe floods in the southern and central provinces including the vicinity of Phnom Penh, said the sources. He will also evaluate the situation and the needs there to see if the Thai Government should provide more assistance, the sources added.

The Thai government on Wednesday pledged to provide rice seeds, food, medicine and tents as flood relief assistance to Cambodia, said Sakthip Krairoek, director-general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department.

Sakthip said currently hundreds of thousands of Cambodians and over hundreds of thousands hectares of cultivated land in Kampong Speu, Kampong Cham have been affected by the inundation.

Sources said Phairot may go along with the technical team, which will leave next Thursday to survey the locations for a new Thai embassy in Phnom Penh.

Sakthip said the team, which will comprise officials from the ministries of foreign affairs, defence, finance and the army, will pay a three-day visit there from Sept 12-14 and will also hold talks with officials of the Phnom Penh Government on the establishment of a Thai diplomatic mission there and on other issues.

The technical delegation will be headed by Sorayut Phromphot, ambassador attached to the Foreign Ministry.

Apart from Thailand, the United States, Japan, Australia and the United Nations have dispatched their assistance to alleviate the suffering of the Cambodian people.

Article Views Humanitarian Aid for Cambodia

BK0909013791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Sep 91 p A1, A2

[By Kawi Chongkitthawon]

[Text] Floods in Cambodia and appeals for emergency assistance have enabled Thailand to use the occasion to patch up and improve its ties with Phnom Penh—the government it had condemned for over a decade.

In an unprecedented move, the Foreign Ministry decided last Friday to send Deputy Foreign Minister Wichian Watthanakun for a one-day visit to Phnom Penh tomorrow to deliver Bt [baht] 10-million worth of medicines, rice and other food.

The 24-hour stopover will be the first official visit to Phnom Penh by a Thai delegation. Since Prime Minister Hun Sen's first visit to Bangkok in January 1989, Phnom Penh officials have made dozens of unofficial visits here.

Sources in the Foreign Ministry said the decision to go to Phnom Penh was made rather quickly. Some top ministry officials have expressed concern that Thailand's latest move could raise a hue and cry abroad and at home.

They said ASEAN, which supports the three-party Cambodia resistance coalition, is still waiting for the Cambodian Supreme National Council (SNC)'s headquarters to be moved to Phnom Penh before any official relations are established, according to sources.

It was feared that some ASEAN countries might criticize the Thai relief plan as the wrong signal to Phnom Penh and thus could slow down the peace process for a comprehensive political settlement in Cambodia.

At the Friday meeting, sources quoted Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin as saying that Thailand had to respond quickly to an urgent request made by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the SNC president, because of the severe floods in Cambodia.

Before leaving for Beijing on Wednesday, Sihanouk asked Thailand to send aid to help the Cambodian floods victims.

Sources said after the decision was made to send the relief aid the ministry called up all concerned officials and agencies to coordinate the effort.

The decision was made despite the Foreign Ministry's concern that the aid to Phnom Penh at this time could cause misunderstandings among the Thai public if there were a feeling that insufficient attention had been paid to local flood victims in Chiang Rai and Mukdahan.

To limit publicity about the event, the ministry only allowed state-owned media representatives from Channel 7 and the THAI NEWS AGENCY to accompany the delegation.

"Any big headlines could give the public the wrong impression," said the sources.

An analyst who monitors Thailand-Cambodian relations, said Friday's decision was a clever move as Thailand was able to respond to both Sihanouk's appeal and at the same time to break the ice with Phnom Penh.

Thailand does not officially recognize Phnom Penh and supports the resistance that has been fighting it. But the prospect of peace and recent events have outpaced the country's position of non-involvement in the Cambodian peace process taken after the Feb 23 coup.

The analyst said Bangkok wants to get out from the current situation and move to gain a foothold in Phnom Penh. The Foreign Ministry is in the process of accelerating ties with Phnom Penh to prepare for relations after a settlement.

Thailand had to increase its flexibility after the four Cambodian factions agreed in June to a ceasefire and cessation of all foreign arms assistance. The burgeoning border trade between Aranyaprathet and Poipet, which was officially opened recently, is also the result of progress in bilateral ties.

After Wichian's trip, another Foreign Ministry team will leave Thursday for a three-day visit to Phnom Penh to look for a new site for a Thai embassy, which is expected to be opened during Asa's scheduled visit on 21-22 November.

The ministry has allocated Bt50 million to build the embassy to replace the old one, which has been deserted since the Khmer Rouge came into power in April 1975.

Army Chief To Visit East European Countries

BK0809014091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Sep 91 p 1

[Text] Army Chief Gen Suchinda Khraphrayun will leave tonight for a 12-day visit to Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary.

He will be accompanied by Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Wirot Saengsnit, Army Intelligence Department chief Maj-Gen Wirawat Patthamanon and staff officers.

The Army chief is scheduled to return on September 19 after a stopover in Britian.

Anan Criticizes Western Stance on Human Rights

BK0609152991 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Commenting on Western countries' reactions to the problem of human rights violations in China and Burma, Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun said Western countries' judgments are based on their own criteria of civilized countries, criteria which include human rights. In fact, politics is always involved in these countries' attitudes toward developing countries. Western countries base their judgments on how much developing countries will benefit them. Anan made the statement during a special interview with the BBC that was broadcast during a BBC Thai-language program on 4 September.

The prime minister said Western countries' opinions towards Burma are not in line with principles. If the situation in Burma existed in a bigger country that Western countries wanted closer ties with, the Western countries' attitude would be different. Citing China as an example, Anan said Western countries levied sanctions against China over the problem of human rights violations. But later on Western countries realized that they would rather have relations with China than have relations severed.

Agricultural Minister To Visit Burma

BK0609011991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Sep 91 p A2

[By Ahpisak Thanasetthakon]

[Text] Agriculture Minister Anat Aphaphirom will visit Burma in the middle of next month to negotiate the renewal of a logging concession for the state forestry firm and fishing cooperation after a prior trip was suspended reportedly because of international pressure to isolate the military government in Rangoon.

Anat said yesterday that he had assigned the Foreign Agricultural Relations Division to write a letter to the Burmese Government informing it about his proposed trip. The division will work out the schedule and agenda for bilateral consultations, the minister added. He will be in Burma for three days.

During the trip, Anat said he expected to meet with Burma's Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries Minister Chit Swe to negotiate the renewal of the logging concession obtained by the Forest Industry Organization, which expired on June 28.

According to Anat, the demand in Thailand for timber imports from neighbouring countries has necessitated the extension of the agreement. The minister initially planned to visit Rangoon from Aug 15-17, but was later forced to cancel the trip following lobbying from the Thai Foreign Ministry. The ministry reportedly argued that Anat's visit might spark off criticism from the world community which is attempting to isolate Burma because of its notorious human rights record.

The minister, however, said that he did not foresee any objection from the Foreign Ministry this time because Thailand and Burma have forged friendly relations.

The minister said in his letter to Chit Swe that he had to be present in the country at the time of the planned visit because a crucial agriculture bill was due to be debated by the Cabinet.

Burma implicitly expressed dissatisfaction over the abrupt suspension of Anat's trip. Burmese fisheries authorities were reportedly tightening their control on concessioned fishing firms and the Thai-Myanmar [Burmese] Fisheries (1990) Co, the, joint fishing venture between the two countries, the [sentence as published]

The conflict threatened to snowball when the Burmese Government expressed its reluctance to negotiate with officials of the Forest Industry Organization (FIO) on the renewal of the concession.

Winai Saprungruang, FIO deputy director, said it would be useless to send the agency's senior officials to talk with the Burmese now because they were not in a position to explain the suspension of the previous visit and negotiate the new logging pact.

The FIO has proposed that it would undertake road construction in areas where trees are to be cut and would develop a reservoir for local villagers living around the concessioned areas. Moreover, it would help the Burmese Government solve the mobile farming of hilltribes. The Thai partner would also invest in a small wood processing plant and would set up a joint logging and processing venture with the Myanmar Timber Enterprise similar to the successful joint investment between Thai-Myanmar Fisheries Co and Myanmar Fisheries Enterprise.

SRV Releases Vessel, 21 Thai Fishermen

BK0609060991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 6 Sep 91 p A2

[Text] Songkhla—The Vietnamese Government last weekend released a vessel and 21 fishermen who had been detained there for about two years, the assistant provincial fisheries chief said yesterday.

But the vessel Phonphaisan has not yet arrived at this southern provincial capital as it broke down on the way back. Provincial fishery officials have sought help from Songkhla Naval Station officers who sent HMS Khlong Yai to assist it, Bunchu Rattanasupha said.

The Phonphaisan, which belongs to a brother of Songkhla's mayor, is expected to anchor at the provincial fishery office today, he said.

Anan Urges Military To Observe Budget Limits

BK0709012991 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Sep 91 p A1, A2

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun has persuaded key military leaders to stick to existing budgets to fund the "urgent" defence projects and postpone less-necessary spending for another fiscal year, a senior Cabinet member said yesterday.

The minister, who asked not to be named, was commenting on reports that the Supreme Command and the three armed forces had pushed for a massive increase in defence funding, amounting totally to over Bt [baht] 12.5 billion, to be incorporated in the draft expenditure budget for the 1992 fiscal year.

The funding is part of requests of Bt53 billion in defence spending, including Bt24.54 billion for a Crotale NG short-range air defence system and Bt19.70 billion for a fleet of 38 AMX jet fighters, that would require budget commitments from fiscal year 1991 to fiscal year 2000.

The Cabinet member also downplayed speculation that failure by the military to obtain the increased funding would snowball into a rift between the National Peacekeeping Council (NPKC) and the interim Cabinet.

"I believe they understand the situation (the budgetary constraint) and the reasons given them.

"I am impressed with the prime minister's style of handling the requests. He closely consulted with key military figures involved and sorted things out through reasonding. He is a man who knows know to make compromises and I don't think he has left any ill feelings among the military leaders," the Cabinet member said.

The Cabinet members said that not only the Defence Ministry but also other ministries were disappointed with the results of their requests for additional funding.

"Not only is the military disappointed, everyone is. Because there is simply no money," he said.

The combined requests for additional funding by government agencies amounted to about Bt100 billion for the 1992 fiscal year, but the committee appointed by the National Assembly to scrutinize the draft expenditure budget bill had slashed that amount to only about Bt2.8 billion, he said.

Meanwhile, National Assembly member Phichai Wasanasong said that the committee had already finished its job and the bill was expected to be taken up by the National Assembly for third-reading passage on Sept 34.

The committee did agree, however, to the Defence Ministry's request for more special alldowance for soldiers, but there was no money left for additional procurement of defence items, he said.

"If the military really needs it, they have to negotiate directly with the prime minister," Phichai said.

Budget Bureau Director Bodi Chunanond, meanwhile, said that the committee had agreed to set aside an additional budget of Bt535 million for the Defence Ministry, including about Bt100 million as an initial fund for the air defence system.

Of the Bt2,820 billion in additional allocations awarded to the ministries, the Defence Ministry had been given the largest amount, he said.

The Interior Ministry was given the second largest amount, Bt520 million, while the Education Ministry and the Public Health Ministry each were granted Bt300 million, Bodi said.

Bodi indicated that the budget bill would not be further amended.

"It will be forwarded to the National Assembly and become law very soon," he said.

He suggested that the military could set aside money from their existing appropriations to fund some of the new projects they wanted to launch in the 1992 fiscal year if they were urgent.

"Adjustment of budgetary allocations within each government agency can be done," he said.

The Defence Ministry might have to wait another fiscal year for budgetary allocations for the less important projects which it recently sought to add to the draft budget bill, he added.

Legislative Assembly Passes Trademark Bill

BK0709033291 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Sep 91 p 13

[Text] The National Legislative Assembly yesterday passed the new trademark bill to replace outdated laws.

The legislation was earlier scrutinised by the aseembly's Economic and Industry Committee.

The assembly unanimously voted the bill, providing wider coverage and protection for trademarks, through its second and third readings.

The bill will become law as soon as it is announced in the Royal Gazette.

The assembly also passed through its first reading the science and technology development bill to develop the country's scientific and technological infrastructure.

The bill provides for the formation of a national committee for the development of science and technology to be chaired by the science, technology and energy minister.

The committee will plan, establish and coordinate work of appropriate agencies involved in industry and agriculture.

Department Chief on Joint Fishing Ventures

BK0509035891 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Text] Neighboring countries sharing territorial waters and exclusive economic zones with Thailand have expressed keen interests to get into joint fishing operations with Thailand. These include Myanmar, Indonesia, India, and Vietnam.

Director General of the Department of Fisheries Plotprasop Suratsawadi says that Thailand now has many options in fishing operation and talks can be more easily held with neighboring countries to solve problems in fisheries.

Myanmar, Indonesia, India, and Vietnam now share the view that fishing operation needs to be joint endeavors as international cooperation.

The director general says that organizations with the blessings of the department, such as the International Association of Fisheries, the Thai-Myanmar Fisheries Company, and the Thai-Vietnamese Fisheries Company, have been successful and gained wide acceptance among fishermen in the region.

Cooperation from neighboring countries in fisheries would ensure raw materials for Thai food-processing industry now operating below its real capacity.

Fish Exporter Confident Despite U.S. Probe

BK0709014991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Sep 91 p 20

[Text] The Unicord Group is confident that Washington's investigation into competitive conditions affecting the U.S. and European tuna industries under Section 332(g) of the U.S. Tariff Act will not adversely affect Thai canned tuna processors.

Unicord senior vice president Wichit Buntuwong said yesterday that although the investigation was likely to focus on Thailand, the world's newest and most aggressively expanding source of finished tuna exports, it might not spell trouble for Thai canneries as it would open a public hearing where interested industry groups could present their views.

He said the issue was initiated by Senator John Breaux of Louisiana.

Senator Breaux asked the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance to ask the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) to conduct an investigation under Section 332(g) of the U.S. Tariff Act, for the purpose of examining current issues affecting the U.S. canned tuna industry.

Mr Wichit said although Thai canned tuna exports to the U.S. had declined, production of pre-cooked, frozen fillets had increased.

After the Uni Group, a holding company of Unicord, acquired Bumble Bee Seafoods, a leading U.S. producer and marketer of canned tuna, Unicord exported frozen fillets for packaging at the Bumble Bee plant in Puerto Rico, which helped reduce its production costs.

In its investigation, the ITC will evaluate the effects of the changing structure of the tuna industry in four areas: the "dolphin-safe" issue, the international fishing access issued relating to tuna, recent technological developments and a profile of the U.S. tuna industry and market.

He said the issue of technological developments concentrated on frozen fillet imports, because the local industry claimed this was a tariff-avoidance scheme.

But Mr Wichit said representatives of Bumble Bee Seafoods were ready to clarify the issue by showing that its fillet-processing would help U.S. consumers buy canned tuna at lower prices.

Furthermore, other U.S. tuna processors are now doing likewise and taking advantage of the lower U.S. tariffs (roughly 1 percent ad valorem on fillets versus 6-12.5 percent tariff rate quota on canned tuna packed in water).

Remnants of Southern Communists To Surrender

BK0709022091 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Aug 91 p 2

[Text] Nakhon Si Thammarat—The last batch of southern communist insurgents has agreed to give up its armed struggle by the end of this year, Fourth Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Kitti Rattanachaya said yesterday.

Lt-Gen Kitti said the remaining 150 armed Communist Party of Thailand members in the South have agreed to surrender and have already stopped their military activities.

They will come out of the jungle towards the end of December, he said.

Vietnam

Ministry Announces Recognition of Baltic States

BK0909052891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 9 Sep 91

[SRV Foreign Ministry's 9 September statement on recognition of the three Baltic States]

[Text] With a wish to consolidate the friendship and traditional cooperation between the Vietnamese people and the people of the republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, the Government of the SRV has decided to recognize the independence of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia and undertakes to establish diplomatic relations with these three states.

The SRV Government hopes that the already existing friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia will be further developed.

Nguyen Manh Cam Leaves for Official Visit to PRC

BK0709103291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam left Hanoi on Saturday for an official friendship visit to China. Minister Nguyen Manh Cam is accompanied by Vu Khoan, deputy foreign minister and many other senior cadres of the Foreign Ministry.

Speaking at the farewell ceremony, Minister Nguyen Manh Cam voiced his joy at his first visit to China at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen. He further noted that this visit would mark an important point in the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations. He expressed hope that this China visit would succeed in contributing to the development of the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries and to peace, stability and cooperation in the region.

Beijing Arrival Reported

BK0909114991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] This afternoon [9 September] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and his entourage arrived in Beijing, starting a six-day official visit to the People's Republic of China at the invitation of Qian Qichen, state councillor and foreign minister.

On hand at the airport to welcome Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam were Deputy Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin and many Chinese Foreign Ministry officials. Our country's ambassador to China, Dang Nghiem Hoanh, and a number of our embassy cadres were also on hand to welcome the delegation.

This is the first official visit to China by a Vietnamese foreign minister in more than 10 years of abnormal [khoong binhf thuwowngf] Sino-Vietnamese relations. The visit marks an important step in the normalization of relations between the two countries.

During his stay in Beijing, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam will be received by Chinese leaders. The Vietnamese foreign minister will hold talks with Foreign Minister Qian Qichen on the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations and other regional and international issues of common concern.

In his cordial talk at the airport guesthouse, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam expressed joy at his chance to go to Beijing to meet and hold talks with Chinese leaders as well as to witness with his own eyes the great achievements of the Chinese people.

Deputy Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin attaches great importance to this trip and has expressed his belief that the efforts of both sides will certainly lead to good results.

On his way to Beijing, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam visited Nanning, which is the capital of the Zhuang Autonomous Region in Guangxi Province.

Sino-Vietnamese Cross-Border Trade Examined

BK0709070591 Hanoi VNA in English 0558 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 7—Trade across the Sino-Vietnamese border in 1990 totalled US dollar 35 million in value, with goods exchanged mostly by mututal agreement, without economic arbitration.

Vietnam offered ores, agricultural and aquatic products and processed industrial crops in exchange for iron, steel, pharmaceuticals, small machines, stationery and furniture. Payment was made in the Chinese and Vietnamese currencies at rates quoted at the time of the deal.

For some time now, goods from Hong Kong and Taiwan have been stored in Vietnam before being tranported to south China. Vietnamese parties are paid storage and transport fees in addition to a commission which usually represents three percent of the value of the goods on transit. About 40 companies are now engaged in this activity.

Cross-border trade has helped the population in Vietnam's northern provinces sell their products like poultry, palm-leafed hats, rattan mats, salt and tea. It has also stimulated local competition to improve quality as can be seen in the case of electric lamps, vacuum flasks, porcelains and batteries. The trade has has also made up for the decrease in volume of imports from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

Premier Vo Van Kiet has given instructions for good management of cross-border trade with China which encourage import-export units to extend their activities to China on the basis of friendship, parity, mutual benefit, legality, and fairness.

The border provinces and the port city of Haiphong are allowed to choose each an import-export company as broker, and all other provinces have to do business through these intermediaries. Payments can be made in Vietnamese and Chinese currencies and, preferably, in convertible currencies through a third-country's bank. Subcontracting and cooperation in production and goods transit services are encouraged.

According to latest reports, 60 points on the Sino-Vietnamese border have been opened up. These include two international and eight national points.

Foreign Ministry Denies Taiwan Lawmakers Visit

BK0709102791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] A Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman has denied foreign press report that a group of Taiwan lawmakers have visited Ho Chi Minh City. The Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokesman while describing the news as groundless, reaffirmed that relations between Vietnam and Taiwan are built fully on the traditional and nongovernmental basis.

Vo Van Kiet Attends Conference on Finance

BK0709125591 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] From 4 to 6 September 1991, a conference on 1991 finance was held for southern provinces at the Thong Nhat Hall in Ho Chi Minh City. The conference was attended by provincial vice chairmen of the people's committee in charge of finance and budget, as well as provincial heads of treasury offices and taxation offices from Tri Thien southward. The conference was also attended and addressed by Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Phan Van Khai, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Comrades Nguyen Ha Phan, Phan Van Tiem, and Truong Quang Duoc. Minister of Finance Hoang Quy reported to the conference on the implementation of the national budget in the first eight months of this year and the balance of the national budget for the last four months of 1991.

The conference discussed some urgent issues in implementing new tax laws and suggested some changes in those tax laws. The conference also listened to the result of tax collection and efforts to stop tax evasion and corruption. The distribution of the national budget, the revenue collected by the state treasury, the draft plan for the 1992 national budget, the change in local national budget management, and other issues were also discussed at the conference.

Comrade Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, addressed the conference on the urgent issues of finance and banking of the country. He stressed that production is essential, but if the currency and prices cannot be stabilized, production itself will be neither stable nor developed. He said that our urgent task at the moment is to stabilize the price of gold and the U.S. dollar exchange rate in order to stabilize production, people's lives, and social psychology.

To achieve that, we must be determined to stop illegal border trading with effective measures. The localities must positively fight against tax evasion, find every measure to increase revenue for the national budget, and seriously punish any form of tax evasion and people aiding and abetting in tax evasion. And at the same time we must stop the extravagant habits of drinking and spending government money and consider these as crimes.

The chairman also confirmed that there will be no currency change, as rumors have been saying, and those gossip-mongers should be severely punished.

Nguyen Van Linh Visits Thua Thien-Hue Province

BK0609094591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 5 Sep 91

[Text] From 31 August to 3 September, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, adviser to the party Central Committee, paid a working visit to Thua Thien-Hue Province.

The local leading comrades reported to the adviser on the implementation of socioeconomic renovation in the past and the provincial plan on the socioeconomic direction and duty during the 1991-95 period.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh hailed the provincial party committee and Thua Thien-Hue people for their efforts to overcome difficulties caused by the wars and harsh weather to develop the local industry with good practical economic results under the lines of party renovation. The province has also created favorable conditions for development of the two mountainous districts of A Luoi and Nam Dong.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh agreed with the economic structural planning in the political report at the coming second round provincial party congress. He urged the province to develop the economy in the highland and wetland areas and to redeploy the labor force to put into good use 150,000 hectares of highlands.

Comrade Nguyen Van Linh had a cordial talk with the provincial leading comrades, heads of government offices and mass organizations, and retired high-ranking cadres. He told them that the current international situation is very complicated. The Thua Thien-Hue party committee must heighten vigilance and internal unity and with determination commit to the socialist road chosen by Uncle Ho and our people.

Works With Cadres in Binh Dinh

BK0809035691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] On 4 September, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, adviser to the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee visited Binh Dinh Province and worked with leading cadres.

After listening to report on situation of the province since its establishment, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh expressed his delight to see achievements scored by Binh Dinh party committee and people during the past period. He also urged the province to accelerate the reorganization of state-run and collective economic units and optimally exploit the provincial economic potentials in agro-forestry-fishery domain in accordance with the market-oriented economy.

Binh Dinh has the seaport of Quy Nhon which is very favorable for developing its economy through trades with foreign countries. It is necessary for the province to formulate appropriate plans for investment and construction while striving to overcome degradation in the education and public health domains. Regarding the party building task, Comrade Nguyen Van Linh urged the province to pay attention to training and forging new party members, especially the younger generation. Veteran party members should help in educating Vietnamese children concerning the revolutionary tradition of our party and people and in consistently monitoring the task of building comprehensively firm and strong basic party organizations.

Truong My Hoa Attends Party Central Block Meeting

BK0709141691 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] Recently, the party Executive Committee of the Central Proselytizing Block held a meeting to discuss measures to implement the directive of the party Secretariat on studying the resolutions of the Seventh National Party Congress and on organizing second round party congresses at all levels.

Also attending the meeting were Comrade Truong My Hoa, secretary of the party Central Committee, and party representatives of the Organization Department and the Ideology and Culture Department.

The meeting agreed that, in September 1991, all party committees and primary party organizations must actively coordinate with delegates of the Seventh National Party Congress and heads of offices to organize sessions to study the resolutions of the Seventh National Party Congress and the Revised Party Statutes.

The initial sessions are for delegates of party congresses and party members so they can answer questions from other members and the public about the complicated changes in the new situation.

The sessions should also pay attention to working out the best method to study the resolutions and the ideological work of the party committee. The method of studying the ideological work must be made suitable to the knowledge of every person to ensure that all members, staff, and workers thoroughly understand and are in strong agreement with the fundamental standpoints of the resolutions of the Seventh National Party Congress.

The meeting confirmed that the second round party congress at all levels is one of the party major works in the remaining months of 1991.

The party committee of the Central Proselytizing Block decided to organize the congresses at the lower level first, then go upward, and they are to guarantee the quality and procedure as directed by the party Secretariat.

Meeting Held To Prepare Local Party Congresses

BK0709111991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Text] A large number of leading cadres of various southern provincial and city party organizations met in Ho Chi Minh City on 4 September to exchange experiences and discuss preparations for the second-round party organization congresses at various levels.

Attending the conference were Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the party Central Committee; Dao Duy Tung, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee; and many representatives of the party Central Committee Office and its Organizational, Ideological-Cultural, and Inspection Departments.

On behalf of the Political Bureau and the party Central Committee Secretariat, Comrade Do Muoi cited requirements to be attained by second-round party organization congresses at various levels. He emphatically said that the motto for these congresses is to stick to the resolution of the national party congress, apply the resolution in the particular situation of each echelon and each locality, and promptly translate the resolution into reality.

Touching on how to set a course for local socioeconomic development, the comrade general secretary urged various party committee echelons to pay attention to identifying objectives to be achieved—ranging from those for national revenue to those for the people's living standards, economic development, and economic structure—saying that they should foresee the possibility of shifting this structure to achieving agro-industrial development in conformity with the realities in each locality, and that they should come up with specific measures to continue renovating the managerial mechanism while consolidating the leading role of the state-run economy and creating favorable a environment for developing various economic components. They should emphasize the functions of leadership by the party and management by the state in accordance with the law and mastery by the people and should correctly enforce the implementation of these functions. In the new mechanism, it is necessary to elaborate on what the state and the administration have done, and to what extent; to what extent the industrial sector has exercised its responsibility; and how to manage various economic components.

Pointing out the decisive significance of the party-building task toward the revolutionary undertaking, Comrade Do Muoi said: Grass-roots party organizations are units directly engaging in the struggle at each given area and are links between the party and the people in motivating the masses to implement the party's policies and lines and the state's policies and laws. Therefore, it is necessary to pay attention to consolidating grass-roots party organizations. To achieve this aim, we should step up the movement to make the party clean and steadfast and to uphold the militancy of party members and party organizations. In addition, various party committee echelons should continue to satisfactorily carry out mass motivation work and should rely on the masses to build the party.

On how to select party committee members, Party General Secretary Do Muoi said: We should pay specific attention to their political standards. Meanwhile, we should not belittle their competence and ethical qualities. Party committee echelons need to be rejuvenated. They should, however, ensure continuity and inheritance.

Thai Binh's Second-Round Party Congress Reported

BK0709112991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 6 Sep 91

[Report by station correspondents Hoang Trong Dan and Thanh Thuy]

[Summary] The second-round congress of Thai Binh provincial party organization recently concluded successfully after four and a half days of work because it had been prepared carefully. The delegates to the congress "worked scrupulously with a high sense of responsibility in the face of many problems in the province and rapid changes in the world, especially in the Soviet Union."

Although views in assessing achievements in renovation over the past few years still differed from one another, they were generally unanimous. "Most prominent among the achievements in agriculture was that many production norms set by the last congress were fulfilled or overfulfilled, with the highest rice yield and gross output in 1989 and 1990, bringing per capita rice production from 325 kg in 1986 to 496 kg and 467 kg respectively in 1989 and 1990."

A frozen meat factory has been built in Thai Binh Province to produce 2,000 tonnes annually and effort is being made to seek markets for its products. "Since late last year, it has exported nearly 500 tonnes of pork. This is still an insignificant figure compared to the 30,000 tonnes of pork leaving the pen every year." The same marketing difficulty has been noted in exporting hemp and rush. The delegates proposed the reduction of intermediary links so that production can be connected directly to circulation.

The delegates further pointed to the two prominent issues in rural areas. The first one involves onwership and the right to use land and ricefields and continuous changes in the workforce and population. This affected the allocation of land to peasants and caused some disputes over land. The second one involves cooperatives because everyone has realized that cooperatives are now operating ineffectively.

"Since the sixth party congress, well aware of the party's renovation line, cadres and the people in Thai Binh Province have sought every means to enrich themselves by resorting to multicropping rice and secondary food plants." The provincial authorities have vigorously promoted the multisectorial economy although the collective economy remains strong. They have also resolved to develop handicrafts and artisan industry, focusing on the processing industry and the manufacture of consumer goods for export.

"If Thai Binh Province is to prosper, persistent effort must be exerted to solve the problem of population growth. At present, the per capita area of cultivated land is merely 600 square meters". If the birth rate remains at the 1990 level of two percent or more, in a few more years the average per capita area of land and ricefield will decrease to 400 square meters. The delegates proposed that effective action be taken to reduce the birth rate.

The last issue dealt with by the delegates was "relations among the party leadership, the state management, and the people's control." Comrade Chu Van Vi, the provincial party committee secretary, suggested measures to improve party leadership, saying that the party should adopt correct lines and policies, organize well its machinery, and train cadres carefully.

"At the second-round congress of Thai Binh provincial party organization, some specific guidelines and economic goals for the next five years were unanimously approved." The economic goals can be summarized in four words "Electricity, roads, schools, and hospitals". If these four goals can be achieved by Thai Binh Province in the next five years, socialism can be said to have succeeded there.

23 Jul Decree Details Law on Private Businesses

BK0609094191 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 10 Aug 91, p 1,4

[Report on Council of Ministers' Decree No. 221-HDBT of 23 July 1991, specifying some points in the law on private business]

[Text] 1. The authorized amount of capital for private businesses in every branch and trade is stipulated (in a list accompanying this decree).

Those business households with capital smaller than the amount authorized as cited in the list are not subject to readjustment as required by the law on private business. The Council of Ministers will work out a separate regulation for them.

2. The following people are not allowed to set up private businesses:

—Civil servants working in various government administrative offices. This is to comply with the Council of Ministers' Decree No. 169-HDBT, dated 25 May 1991, on government civil servants.
—People holding elected positions in the government hierarchy.
—Cadres in charge of unions of enterprises or state enterprises.
—Active officers of the Vietnamese People's Army or the Vietnamese Public Security Force.

3. Individuals wishing to set up private businesses in certain branches and trades authorized by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, as stipulated in Article 5 of the law on private business, shall file an application with the chairman of the Council of Ministers for consideration and decision. Based on the decision of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the chairmen of the people's committees of relevant provinces and cities (which will be referred to below as provinces for short) under the direct jurisdiction of the central government or corresponding administrative units shall issue permits for the setting up of private businesses to the applicants concerned. The chairman of the Council of Ministers will consider and respond to requests to set up private businesses within 60 days of the time their correct applications are received.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers will delegate to the chairman of the relevant provincial people's committee the authority to consider in the following cases the granting of permits for setting up private businesses, in accordance with guidance given by the management of the sectors concerned:

—Areas belonging to such sectors as mineral ore exploitation, production of traditional home-use medicine, production of fertilizers, the manufacture of fireworks of various types, and electricity generation and supply (not belonging to the national power grid), with capital smaller than the amount authorized, as cited in the list that accompanies this decree.

—Radio and television support services that are provided locally.

After granting permits for setting up these businesses, the chairmen of the provincial people's committees concerned shall report this to the chairman of the Council of Ministers for information.

4. Except for those cases cited in Point 3 above, those companies wishing to set up private businesses shall seek permission from the people's committee in the province where their head offices are located.

When considering the granting of permits for setting up private businesses in such sectors as electricity, machinery, metallurgy, chemistry, electronics, industrial building, long-distance transportation, manufacture of export products, and certain areas of the mineral ores sector, the provincial people's committee concerned shall consult with the ministry in charge of the relevant sector to reach a unanimous decision. In case a unanimous decision cannot be reached, the committee shall report this to the chairman of the Council of Ministers for consideration and decision.

5. After 15 days, at the latest, since the receipt of a correct application, the provincial economic arbitrator concerned shall issue a business registration license to the owner of the relevant business service. When issuing such a license the provincial economic arbitrator is authorized to collect some fees as stipulated by the finance minister.

6. Private businesses having to do with the following sectors will be given promotional privileges by the state:

a. Private businesses that turn out products essential for production and life and that manufacture goods for export:

—Those engaged in the production of grain and foodstuffs in areas zoned off for export-oriented production.
—Those engaged in the production of substitutes for imports (including equipment, machinery, raw materials, and replacement parts).
—Those engaged in the production of knitwear and clothing items, leather shoes, handicrafts, and fine art objects for export.
—Those engaged in the exploitation and processing of agricultural, forestry, and aquatic or sea products for export.
—Those engaged in the manufacture of machinery products in the service of agricultural production and in the processing of agricultural products.

—Those engaged in the production of essential chemicals, including fertilizer.
—Those engaged in afforestation and in the reclamation of wastelands, bare hills, and water bodies for agricultural production, forestry, and fishery.

b. Private businesses that manufacture and repair transportation means, and that carry out transportation work:

—Those engaged in the building of commonly-used transportation means, such as locomotives and rail cars, to replace imported ones.
—Those engaged in the repair of commonly-used transportation means.
—Those engaged in the transportation of goods for mountain provinces and offshore islands.

c. Private businesses involved in infrastructure building that serves the entire country or certain localities.

7. Private businesses dealing in those branches and trades cited in Point 6 above shall be accorded the following promotional policies by the state:

—Preferential treatment when it comes to considering and tackling requests for the allocation of land needed for building new production facilities or for expanding existing production facilities in accordance with the land act now in force.
—Priority treatment when seeking loans from the Investment and Development Bank for building new production facilities or expanding existing production facilities, and buying more equipment needed for production.
—Tax exemption and tax reduction in accordance with various tax laws and regulations now in force.
—Favorable conditions when it comes to carrying out import-export activities, especially exporting of those products turned out by relevant establishments; setting up joint ventures with foreign countries in accordance with the law on foreign investment; and arranging travel overseas to appproach a market or study new industrial technology.

To enjoy such preferential treatment, owners of private businesses shall file an application with the people's committee from which they have received their business registration licenses. The people's committee will then consider and decide on the application.

8. Private businessmen engaged in the following branches and trades shall fully comply with all the prerequisites set by the ministries in charge of the sectors concerned and the relevant provincial people's committees.

a. Branches and trades with specific prerequisites to be detailed by related ministries are: energy, some areas of the mineral ores exploiting sector, metallurgy, manufacture, and assembly of electronic components; manufacture and assembly of electric motors, transformers, and electric gauges; manufacture, assembly, and building of mechanized and rudimentary transportation means; manufacture of plastic and rubber products; preparation of essential chemicals such as fertilizers, insecticides, and termite control chemicals; preparation and processing of Oriental home-use medicine and those cosmetics that may be hazardous to people's health; processing of grain, foodstuffs, and refreshment drinks; exploitation and processing of seafood; exploitation of forestry products; inter-provincial truck transportation; cross-border transportation; and waterway shipping.

b. Branches and trades with specific prerequisites to be detailed by related provincial people's committees to suit the local socioeconomic situation are: production of baked brick and tiles; use of steam boilers, pile-driving machines, explosives, and compressed air, and those substances (which are not listed in Item A of Point 8) with toxic vaporation; use of water resources; and treatment of industrial wastes.

The decree further points out that ministries in charge of various branches and provincial people's committees shall promptly review their old stipulations for necessary revision and perfection of specific prerequisites and shall provide guidance for the supervision of implementation of those new stipulations. As for those private businessmen failing to comply with those specific prerequisites already in force, the ministries and people's committees concerned have the right to ask them to rectify, reorganize, and temporarily suspend their activities until they can comply properly with these conditions or revoke their business registration licenses.

Those business households which had been set up before the law on private business went into effect will have to redo all the procedures for setting up and registering their businesses in accordance with the law and with those stipulations of this decree.

Decree on Addendum to Corporations Law Issued

BK0509145991 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 13 Aug 91 pp 1, 4

[Text] On 23 July 1991, the Council of Ministers issued Decree No. 222-HDBT on the addendum to some points in the Law on Corporations.

The decree stipulates:

Legal capital for limited liability corporations and joint stock corporations classified in accordance with their branches in article three of the Law on Corporations are defined in a separate nomenclature (attached to this decree)

Corporations (joint venture enterprises) already established in accordance with Council of Ministers Decree No. 28-HDBT dated 22 March 1989 that meet the qualifications of limited liability corporations or joint stock corporations are subject to the addendum to the Law on Corporations.

Corporations that want to engage in some kinds of business that need the approval of the Council of Ministers chairman as prescribed in Article 11 of the Law on Corporations, must submit their applications to the Council of Ministers chairman for consideration and decision. Acting on the decision of the chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairmen of people's committees of provinces and municipalities directly subordinate to the central government or corresponding administrative units (hereafter called provincial people's committees) shall issue licenses to corporations. The Council of Ministers chairman will consider and decide on applications for establishing corporations within 90 days from the date of receiving these applications.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers can authorize chairmen of provincial people's committees to consider and issue licenses to corporations that engage in the following businesses:

—Production of medicines, chemical fertilizers, insecticides, and fire-crackers.
—Generation and supply of electricity (not related to the state electric supply network).
—Local radio and television broadcasting services as well as publication work.

In exercising their authority to issue licenses to these corporations, provincial people's committee chairmen must consult with the responsible ministries to reach a consensus. If consensus cannot be achieved between the parties concerned, a report must be filed to the Council of Ministers chairman for a final decision.

The provincial economic arbitrator, within 15 days from the date of receiving the application, must issue business registering certificates to qualified corporations. Registration fees, specified by the minister of finance, will be collected upon the issuance of these certificates.

Business corporations of various branches are entitled to receive state assistance in:

—Favorable consideration in providing land for building new production establishments or for expanding already existing establishments in accordance with the current Law on Land.
—Receiving loans, provided on a priority basis, by the bank of investment to build new production establishments or expand already existing establishments and to buy additional equipment for production.
—Exemption from or reduction of taxes in accordance with the current law and regulations on taxation.
—Enjoying favorable conditions in export-import activities, especially in exporting their own products; in cooperation and initiating joint ventures with foreign countries in accordance with the Law on Foreign Investment; and in going abroad to find new markets or to study new industrial technology.

All corporations established before the promulgation of the Law on Corporations, must comply with the new procedures on establishing and registering their businesses in accordance with the law and regulations stipulated in this decree.

The decree also stipulates persons prohibited from establishing or joining corporations, branches and occupations promoted by the state, and sectors and branches subjected to certain regulations prescribed by ministries concerned (as stipulated in the Council of Ministers' Decree No. 221-HDBT, published in NHAN DAN issue of 10 August 1991).

Illegal Foreign Currency Trade Increasing

BK0909091691 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Despite the fact that responsible organs in Ho Chi Minh City have used many measures to stop the illegal trading in gold and foreign currencies, the illegal activity is not decreasing.

In Ward 11, the Market Control Team checked 12 households doing gold trading and discovered five of them doing business without a license.

In Ward 8, they found out that 25 out of the 35 households checked conducted business without a license.

In Ward 6, after checking 23 state-run gold trading points they discovered that 21 trading points belonged to a state-run catering service company trading gold without a license.

Many private shops are still trading in foreign currencies illegally. From 25 July, the starting date of the checking of gold trading shops under the directive of the City People's Committee, the City Market Control Team has discovered 14 cases of big illegal foreign currency trading, confiscating 15,000 dollars, 128 taels of gold, more than 238 Vietnamese dong, and other currencies.

National Import-Export Figures Reported

BK0409095991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Over the past six months, the country as a whole has exported 1.13 billion rubles and dollars worth of goods, or 63 percent of the annual target.

Many kinds of goods—such as peanuts, processed meat, anthracin, tin, and crude oil—have achieved fairly high export values. The export value of garments and a certain amount of farm produce has declined from last year's levels.

The national total value of imports has reached 1.8 billion rubles and dollars. Imports from Zone Two have increased considerably. Although the imported quantities of essential goods such as iron, cotton, silk, gasoline, and oil have been lower than last year, we have been able to ensure domestic supply and demand because we have a backlog of imports carried over from 1990 in addition to those goods imported by various localities.

Faced with complex developments in the Soviet Union and other East European countries, import-export units in the country have, on one hand, strived to maintain relations with their traditional markets while broadening multilateral trade relations, thus creating new import-export markets.

As for in-country trade transactions, since early this year the total retail value of the state-run trade sector, marketing cooperatives, and other economic components has reached some 6,720 billion dong with the state-run trade sector alone achieving 2,760 billion dong or 47 percent of its annual target.

As the state-run trade sector has firmly controlled the source of essential goods and regarded wholesales as its principal target, it has contributed to making market prices relatively stable without any major fluctuations.

World Bank Builds Water Supply Projects

BK0409083991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 31 Aug 91

[Text] The visiting World Bank delegation recently held working sessions with representatives of water supply corporations of the Mekong River Delta provinces, Dong Nai Province, the former Vung Tau-Con Dao Special Zone, and the water supply corporation No. 2 to discuss plans to build water supply projects in 1992 in the framework of the RAP-86 [expansion unknown] project.

Representatives from the World Bank reported on its continued investment to develop water supply projects in 27 provinces and cities. The World Bank will very soon provide loans to the Hau Giang water supply corporation to improve its work, set up a computer center, and provide a three-month computer course for officials in the Mekong River Delta provinces.

Moreover, the Can Tho City water works will be provided with new equipment to produce 48,000 cubic meters a day. Besides, work is underway to install a 3-km 600mm water pipeline in Can Tho, and a 10-km 300mm water pipeline in Soc Trang City. Representatives of the World Bank also guided these provinces to complete procedures for loans and foreign investments.

Silk Exports in Central Highlands Top 1990 Mark

BK0409072691 Hanoi VNA in English 1436 GMT 3 Sep 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept.3—The Lam Dong Mulberry, Silkworms and Silk Fibre Corporation in the Central Highlands has so far this year exported 21 tonnes of silk fibre, earning dong 2.6 billion (more than 260,000) [not further specified] equivalent to the figure of entire year of 1990.

Over the past seven months, the corporation purchased 150 tonnes of cocoons, seven times more than in the corresponding period last year, due to its efforts to strengthen the cocoon purchasing network at all major silk-rearing villages in the province. It also spent nearly dong one billion (more than 100,000) to upgrade and expand the silk fibre processing plant, raising its capacity from 20 tonnes to 30 tonnes annually and strictly following the technical processing of silk fibre to guarantee the export standard. As a result, almost all exported silk fibre of Lam Dong this year earned two more U.S. dollars per kilogramme.

Government Issues Decision on School Management

BK0509102591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] On 31 August 1991, the Council of Ministers issued a decision on the organization and rearrangement of schools in the national education system.

According to the decision, the Council of Ministers charges the Education Ministry and sectors and localities involved with the task of rearranging the entire network of kindergartens, general and vocational schools, middle professional schools, advanced schools, colleges, and higher education schools throughout the country.

The purpose and principle of rearranging the school network is aimed not at restraining development but at creating conditions for continually expanding the scale of schools and enhancing the quality and efficiency of the national education system in order to better serve the training of the technical work force, foster talented people, and raise the people's intellectual standard.

We must eliminate irrationalities in the school network; diversify the forms of standardized and non-standardized training in public, privately owned, and semi public-private schools; aim to satisfy the demands for universalizing education and raising the cultural and occupational standards for youths, teenagers, and the people as a whole; link the training process closely with the requirements for employing the social work force; and closely combine training with scientific research and experiments in production.

A majority of universities and higher education schools are placed under the direct managerial control of the Education Ministry, excluding those schools of the public health, cultural, artistic, security, and national defense sectors. Most of the professional, middle occupational, and vocational schools are placed under the direct managerial control of the local people's committees. Kindergartens, general, and supplemental education schools are placed under the managerial control of local authorities.

NHAN DAN Editorial Welcomes New School Year

BK0909052591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 4 Sep 91

[NHAN DAN 5 September Editorial: "Continue to Develop and Gradually Renovate the Cause of Education"]

[Text] Today, more than 14 million students and over 800,000 teachers embark on the new school year—the first school year to implement the resolution of the Seventh Party Congress.

As pointed out in the political report at the congress, we should accelerate even more vigorously scientific and technological education and training, considering it the primary national policy to promote the human factor that is the direct motive force of development. This manifests the consitent policy of our party and state, which always attach importance to the cause of education and consider investment in education as investment in mankind itself—the most essential and effective way of investment to advance the country along the direction toward socialism.

In the last school year, the educational sector received increases in both state-allocated and self-managed budgets for its various major projects, such as the campaign against illiteracy, the universalization of primary education, the prevention of the deterioration of a number of key schools, and the promotion of education in mountainous regions or localities inhabited by ethnic minority groups. A number of systems and policies concerning preference toward teachers have also been implemented. These include seniority subvention, overtime payment, and other allowances for teachers in highland or remote areas.

Despite the attention and investment of the state, education and training work still encounters numerous difficulties. This is due to existing socioeconomic crisis in the country, the deplorable lack of lecturing and teaching facilities, and the low living standards of teachers, especially those teaching at primary schools.

However, thanks to the efforts of the entire educational sector, especially the contingent of teachers, the educational situation has been maintained relatively firmly and developed in certain aspects; the diversification of schools and classrooms has been carried out at all educational levels and in all regions; pre-school education, which has previously been disintegrated in many localities, has now been initially restored and consolidated under numerous forms of organization; and primary education has made headway as 95 percent of children reaching the age for this level of education have attended classes and the number of drop-outs has decreased.

However, the number of drop-outs in levels II and III education has increased. Nevertheless, the number of graduates from local general high schools is higher than the previous year while vocational training has been firmly maintained and developed. Many students from provinces in the mountain and plain regions have scored high marks in various national examinations to select outstanding students.

On the basis of achievements scored during the past year, the 1991-92 school year will be implemented in the direction of renovating, stabilizing, and developing teaching and learning methods.

Our state has just promulgated the law on universalization of primary education. This calls for efforts to effectively use state budget in universalizing primary education while mobilizing contributions from localities and the people to set up education funds for poor students and striving to improve the living standard of kindergarten and primary school teachers, enhance facilities at the existing kindergarten schools and nurseries, promote people-established nurseries and kindergartens, and reorganize primary school network to provide sufficient classrooms for children to complete their primary education.

Along with efforts to develop primary education and eliminate illiteracy, we must strive to maintain the required number of level II and III students to ensure sufficient students for entrance examinations to colleges and universities. To enhance the quality of education, we must strive to continue to improve curricula at schools, renovate teaching and learning methods, stop the passive method of teaching by reading; and pay attention to improving ethical, ideological, and vocational education to suit unique conditions of localities and meet requirements of manpower for the multisectoral economy.

To produce competent students in accordance with their endowed talent, we should pay more attention to consolidating vocational training courses so as to produce a contingent of capable graduates for the nation.

The education undertaking's noble task is to enhance the intelligence of people in society while striving to produce more intellectuals for the nation. This is one of the key policies of our state that should receive due attention by the entire society.

2 TV Stations Set Up in Lang Son, Ba Ria-Vung Tau

BK0409152491 Hanoi VNA in English 1511 GMT 4 Sep 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Sept. 4—Two more local television stations have been put in operation, one in the northern border province of Lang Son, and the other in the southern province of Ba Ria-Vung Tau.

Transmission by the VN dong-210 million station in the town of Lang Son, the third station in the province, is very good. The station now broadcasts two times a week. Very soon it will operate daily.

The station at the provincial town of Vung Tau, 100 km east of Ho Chi Minh City, broadcasts its own programmes and relays programmes by central television and Ho Chi Minh Television.

Viewers as far as Con Dao Islands and Bach Ho (White Tiger) oil field off the coast can watch Vung Tau Con Dao TV two times a week for a start.

Australia

PNG's Namaliu Interviewed on 'Resource Boom'

BK0809112791 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0803 GMT 8 Sep 91

[From the "International Report" program]

[Text] Papua New Guinea [PNG]'s Prime Minister Mr. Rabbie Namaliu said his country is on the threshold of a period of a massive sustained resource development. During his visit to Canberra last week, Mr. Namaliu said the resources boom was the biggest challenge facing PNG. From Canberra Graeme Dobell reports.

[Begin recording] [Dobell] Mr. Namaliu said PNG had moved on from the shock created by the closure of the Bougainville mine in March 1989. Gold production next year will be more than double and silver more than treble the level (?from which) they had fallen to after Bougainville shutdown. Petroleum production would go from nothing this year to 46 million barrels a year in 1993-94. Export earnings from minerals and petroleum would be close to $3,000 million [currency not further specified] by 1993-94, compared to less than $1,000 million this year.

[Namaliu] We are entering a period of unprecedented resource development which is accompanied by great opportunities and great responsibilities. Our most profound responsibility is to manage development [words indistinct] prosperity well. Two words summarize how that must be done—good government.

[Dobell] Mr. Namaliu said the Constitution had been changed to get greater parliamentary stability which would help achieve assured policies and programs from Port Moresby. Investors would have the strongest possible assurance that the political system would be more stable, effective, and accountable than had been since independence.

[Namaliu] Accompanying greater political stability we will provide sound and responsible economic management. The shocks created by the closure of Bougainville Copper and depressed commodity prices forced us to undertake a structural adjustment program as demanding as any in our region. We have used this program to achieve a more efficient administration, a redirection of spending toward infrastructure, productivity, and areas that enhance quality of life and a real transfer of growth from the public to the private sector. We are emerging from the most difficult period stronger than ever, and we are prepared to wisely and soundly manage the resource boom we are about to experience. We are grateful to Australia and to the international lending and (?loan) community for the strong support which had sustained us during the difficult period we have been through. In return, we offer you the assurance that we will not squander the great opportunity we have, to be a real success story of the developing world.

[Dobell] Mr. Namaliu said that since the Bougainville mine closed PNG had approved or commissioned three major gold mines, its first commercial oil venture, and its first natural gas project. And to ensure that the Bougainville mistakes were not repeated, much more of the benefits would go to local landowners and their provinces.

[Namaliu] Well, as I said in the speech that I have just made, that, despite what happened in Bougainville, it has not dampened nor has it necessarily deterred major companies from continuing to invest or [words indistinct] into country for the first time particularly in the mining and petroleum sectors, that was the reference that I was making. Obviously in the agricultural sector and in the non-mining sector, but more particularly in the agricultural sector—also because of continuing depressed prices for all of our major agricultural commodities—that sector has not attracted any major foreign investment; but certainly in the mining and petroleum sectors we continue to attract companies who are prepared to invest in the country and I have outlined some of the changes that are very significant in view of what is happening in Bougainville, which among other things, now bring landowners and provincial governments into the process of negotiations, of discussions, before any mining or petroleum or resource development agreement is signed. That never happened before. It also enables the landowners and provincial governments to have greater access to benefits that they do not have before. Landowners are now being paid a higher rate of royalties, for instance, than they were under Bougainville. The province where the projects are based is now entitled to one percent of all export earnings paid back to the province in recognition for its contribution to a national revenue. All of the spinoff benefits, the first priority in terms of any business spinoffs, are first given to the landowners and people from that province. All of these are designed to make sure that landowners and provincial governments feel that they are part of the project, that they are benefiting from the project, and that the project is not benefiting only those from overseas that have come in to invest their money. [end recording]